

Monday

Dust... Spectrum charts the rise and fall of Biba, symbol of the Swinging Sixties. A three-part series... to dust. The dead have more security than the living. Gillian Tindall reports

Aiming... Christopher Thomas looks at the Mondale bid for the Democratic nomination... high



MODERN TIMES meets the people with shares in the high life... and higher. In the first of a series in Career Horizons, Edward Fennell advises on higher education for those with disappointing A levels

The war... CND is not the only threat to Nato. Philip Towle explains... of the world. Full reports on the closing day of the World Athletics Championships

Hospital watch on Gormley

Doctors at Charing Cross Hospital, London, should know today whether yesterday's operation on Lord Gormley, the former miners' union president, to remove an obstruction in a narrowed blood vessel in the neck, has succeeded.

Zia deadline

President Zia-ul-Haq of Pakistan plans constitutional changes strengthening the role of the President and ending martial law after elections to be held by March 23, 1985. Page 5

TV-am ahead

TV-am has overtaken the BBC, according to breakfast television audience figures for last week, which gave it 1.5m viewers to the BBC's 1.2m.

New tap stock

The Bank of England launched an £800m tap stock against a background of firmer gilt prices and optimism over the US money supply. Sterling gained 35 points to \$1.4835 against the dollar. Page 11

Israeli crisis

The Israeli Cabinet met army chiefs yesterday to discuss plans for sweeping defence cuts in a move to resolve the economic crisis in the country. Page 5

16 die in Chile

Sixteen people were killed, 100 wounded and 700 arrested during the day of protest called by the Chilean opposition against President Pinochet's regime. Page 5

Killer dies

Alexander Sinclair, the international drug smuggler sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of a gang colleague in the "handless corpse" case, died in jail. Page 2

No to dual-key

Chancellor Kohl has rejected suggestions of a West German veto right over the firing of US nuclear missiles, which are due to be sited in the country.

Test hero

Nick Cook, a last-minute selection, took four New Zealand wickets for 28 runs in the Third Test. Former England captain Mike Brearley is almost certain to come out of retirement to play for Middlesex today. Page 16

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Letters: On remand prisoners, from Ms J. Cove; NHS priorities, from Mr R. M. Nicholls; the Met Office, from Sir Henry Smith

Leading Articles: United States and Mexico: Union contributions to party funds. Features, page 6
Daisy Ashcroft's unpublished story: The reluctant private patient. Sorry, you'll hear that again. Obituary, page 8
Lord Wigg, Professor F. J. Daniels

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BL infiltrators' 'battle plan' nearly succeeded

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

British Leyland yesterday disclosed a document said to come from the far-left Socialist League, giving details of how the company's car plant at Cowley, Oxfordshire, was to be infiltrated and why it was considered important to do so.

The document, handed to BL management by concerned workers, was described by an executive as "reading like a battle plan".

It is thought that the aims outlined in the document came close to succeeding.

BL said that it was circulated to members of the Socialist League, an arm of the international Trotskyist movement, last summer when the company was recruiting up to 1,300 workers at Cowley, mostly for the new Maestro car.

Although the document is typed on plain white paper, BL has no doubt about its authenticity.

The conspiracy plan which it describes appears to have been followed closely, judging by the disclosures which accompanied the dismissal earlier this week of 13 Cowley "activists" for giving false information on their job application forms.

Although the document does not spell out the purpose of the proposed infiltration, it makes clear the strategic role of BL within British industry and the importance to BL of Cowley and its new Maestro.

"The size of the plant, the importance of BL and the general lack of opportunity in large car/engineering plants means that we must go all out to get comrades in", the documents says.

Infiltration "must be seen as a clear priority for the organization", it adds.

Comrades are told what kind of job background they have to claim in order to be recruited, and that they have to be able to give an address in Oxford.

If references were to be offered from outside Oxford, members would need "a cover story to explain why they are now in Oxford or seeking to move". Members reluctant to move from other parts of Britain are reminded that the Cowley jobs are well-paid.

The document calls for a large number of comrades to assemble on the day recruiting begins and to sign on as unemployed at the Oxford Job-Centre. If they were short of funds, branches would "have to allocate the necessary resources".

Comrades already working at Cowley would be on hand to help prepare newcomers for recruitment interviews.

Women comrades in particular are urged to turn up because BL was worried, the document says, about discriminatory recruitment allegations and was asking existing workers if women in their family wanted jobs.

An Oxford telephone number is provided, together with an address, 26 Bullingdon Road.

There was no sign of the man believed to be the regional secretary of the Socialist League at the small terrace house in Bullingdon Road yesterday.

A lodger said that he had decided to go away for the weekend, visiting family members outside Oxfordshire.

A neighbour said that he had often seen about a dozen people in the front downstairs room of the house working late into the night. Typewriters were used and there was a lot of paperwork, he said.

Another neighbour said that a young couple had spent almost a day last week removing stickers, most of them political.

How near the conspiracy attempt came to success and how thoroughly cover stories were provided became clearer last night. Company letterheads carrying references looked very authentic, but it later transpired that they referred to non-existent companies and had been professionally printed.

Sources last night said: "They were so well done that they would have been taken in by most firms. It was only when the company began checking them six months later that investigators were sent to the addresses and found open spaces or ordinary houses."

It also became known last night that six of the 13 people dismissed were university graduates. They had not disclosed this on their applications and in most cases had suggested that they had a much lower standard of education.

All indicated that they were unemployed and had moved to the Oxford area to look for work.

How well they played their chosen roles is emphasized by the fact that BL management, already alerted to such a move by the document handed in by workers, still did not detect them. Document, page 2

Libya bombs retreating Chad forces

Ndjamena (AFP, AP, Reuters) - The Libyan Air Force yesterday attacked the village of Koro-Toro in which Chadian forces retreated after evacuating the northern town of Faya-Largeau on Wednesday.

The village is some 200 miles south of Faya-Largeau. The scale of the attack was not known.

The Libyans had earlier bombed the Oum Chalouba cross-roads in Chad, about 220 miles south-east of Faya-Largeau, which the forces of the Habre Government had seized on Wednesday night from the Libyan-backed troops of former President Goukouni Oueddi.

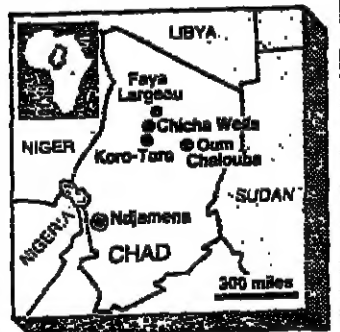
The bombing of Oum Chalouba, followed the loss by Habre forces on Wednesday afternoon of the Faya-Largeau oasis, the third time the giant palm grove has changed hands since June.

The recapture of the Oum Chalouba crossroads, which is on the route to the important eastern town of Abéché, had somewhat compensated the Habre troops for the loss of Faya-Largeau in the face of heavy Libyan bombing.

The Libyan Army was reported to be pouring supplies and reinforcements into Faya-Largeau in possible preparation for a new assault on government positions on the road south.

Meanwhile, President Habre's beleaguered government met in emergency session to assess the military situation after the fall of Faya-Largeau.

No statement was issued at the end.



War of words, page 5

Coach speed limit cuts proposed

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government is considering a reduction in the 70 mph motorway speed limit for coaches after several recent serious crashes, and has proposed that the speed limit for lorries on dual carriageways be increased from 40 mph to 50 mph.

Coach operators reacted sharply last night after Mrs Lynda Chalker, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said that in view of public concern about the coach limit she was prepared to consider evidence from interested organizations that it might be too high.

Mrs Chalker will decide in the autumn whether legislation is needed after receiving the results of a study being carried out by Department of Transport officials on coach speeds. Staff are conducting a monitoring exercise on motorways all over Britain, noting the speeds at which coaches are travelling and the lanes they are using.

The department has acted in response to representations from the public and MPs after the accidents, but it acknowledges that a reduction in the limit could have far-reaching consequences for coach companies, including re-timetableing on most routes.

The Bus and Coach Council, which represents 98 per cent of United Kingdom bus operators and two-thirds of the coach

operators, in a strong response last night, said that barely 1 per cent of all motorway accidents involved coaches.

Mr Denis Quin, the director-general, said that not one of the recent accidents had been attributable to coaches speeding. He said: "Coaches limited to 60mph would be a nuisance but to restrict coaches to the near two lanes is likely to increase accidents rather than improve safety."

The congestion in those two lanes was already serious on many routes, some heavy goods vehicles were scheduled to average speeds as low as 35 to 45mph while few, if any, fully loaded lorries could maintain 60mph, he said.

Mr Robert Brook, chief executive of the state-owned National Bus Company, which runs the 1,500-coach National Express fleet, Britain's largest, welcomed the Government's proposals.

Continued on page 2, col 5

Increase to 60mph for caravans on tow

Some relief for motorists is offered in the speed limit changes, with a proposed increase to 60 mph in the limit for cars towing caravans on motorways. The present limit is 40 mph or 50 mph depending on size. All the changes are designed to take account of the increase in the last 20 years in dual carriageway road.

Warder 'drove Gelli out of jail'

From Our Correspondent, Geneva

Gelli's cell, he had earlier given more than one assurance to the prison security centre that the former banker and head of the banned Italian P2 lodge was still asleep in his bed - when, in fact, he was already concealed in the van.

Announcing the arrest of the warder yesterday, Mr Jean-Pierre Trembley, the judge investigating the banker's escape, said that Signor Gelli's disappearance was discovered by the prison day shift shortly after 7 am.

Micro mites make a computer killing

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

A college, a bank and a nuclear weapons laboratory have been raided by a team of young but knowledgeable home-computer buffs.

What they stole was information - not of it classified but presumably some of it very personal. Such was the alarm about national security that the FBI was brought in to find out how 12 people, aged 15 to 21, achieved the very thing portrayed in the film "War Games".

In that fictional story a teenager uses a home computer to break into the information data of a defence computer controlling nuclear weapons. In the non-fictional story the home computer was used to break onto computers at a dozen locations, unhindered by any sophisticated defence mechanisms.

The computer buffs were working at the Los Alamos National Laboratory in Milwaukee, operated by the University of California for the Department of Energy.

Mrs Barbara Mulklin, a laboratory official, said no information was "compromised" - doubtless a euphemism for saying it was not disturbed. No classified information was acquired, she insisted.

"There are elements of the security system that watch for unusual activity. They are built-in elements," she said, explaining how the raiders were caught. The raiders had acquired records, messages and routine reports.

The Milwaukee Journal tracked down one of the team members, who said the raiders had no difficulty breaking into a dozen computers.

"There's no security," he said. "It didn't take too much intelligence."

Their computer was connected to Telenet, a computer communications network, and the group used Telenet telephone numbers to contact other computers.

British concern: British computer experts have in recent years been concerned about the breaches in security caused by the spread of microcomputers (Our Electronics Correspondent writes).

Computer programs which skip around traditional security checks have made it easier for the microcomputer user to gain easy access to central computer systems. Before the proliferation of microcomputers, the computer power was centralized and supervised by security-cleared personnel.

Thompson stays one jump ahead of the field



Daley Thompson (above) was able to profit from an error of judgment in the high jump by his most fancied opponent in the decathlon at the world athletics championships in Helsinki yesterday.

The first day of the decathlon ended with five events completed and Thompson 120 points ahead of the field - six points better than his position at the end of the first day in Athens last year, when he set a world record in winning the event at the European Championships.

Jürgen Hingsen, who bettered Thompson's world record two months ago, decided not to attempt the high jump with the bar at 2.03 metres, but failed in his three attempts at 2.06 metres, which left Thompson with a 2.03 metres clearance and a 25-point advantage.

Colin Reitz won Britain's first individual medal of the championships, taking the bronze in the 3,000 metres steeplechase. He was in fourth place at the final barrier, but Marsh of the United States fell when taking it, letting Reitz in.

"I'm not going to say I'm sorry. The barriers are there to be jumped," Reitz said afterwards.

Report and results, page 15

TUC talks with Tebbit next week

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The TUC has quietly dropped its 18-month boycott of contacts with Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Employment, in a move expected to infuriate hard-Left critics of the Labour movement's "new mood of realism".

A full fortnight before the annual Trades Union Congress debates whether to ban discussions with the Minister on labour law reform, union leaders will see Mr Tebbit on two successive days next week.

On the agenda for the first discussions between the TUC and the Employment Secretary since January, 1982, are the operation of the Government's Youth Training Scheme and its proposals to repeal the nineteenth-century Truck Acts as a step towards "the cashless society".

The talks with Mr Tebbit next Thursday and Friday are regarded as a breakthrough by his advisers, who see these discussions as a step towards persuading union leaders to accept his plans for greater internal union democracy through the introduction of secret ballots before strikes and for elections to high office in the labour movement.

A much more guarded view is taken by the TUC where it is argued that the boycott only related to Mr Tebbit's union law proposals and did not rule out contacts on issues where the unions feel they may have some influence on Government policy.

It is 18 months since the unions officially put in an appearance at Caxton House, the Westminster headquarters of the Employment Department, and the initiative for next week's meetings came from the TUC.

The Minister is likely to be unresponsive to the unions' proposal that the weekly allowance payable to young people on YTS schemes should be raised in line with inflation from £25 to £26.50.

Inflation rate rises as output slips

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

The rate of inflation has started to rise again and industrial activity has fallen unexpectedly, denting some of the recent optimism in Government and industry about the incipient economic recovery in Britain.

Official statistics published yesterday show that prices rose by half a percentage point, in July, pushing the annual rate of inflation up from 3.7 per cent to 4.2 per cent, the first increase since February.

A rise of this order had been widely expected, and government officials emphasized that they were figures in line with the Treasury's official forecast that inflation will rise slowly to between 5 and 6 per cent by the end of the year.

Industrial production fell in June, according to provisional figures, at a time when most economists were expecting further consolidation of the recent clear signs of continued economic recovery.

The index of industrial production fell from 104.5 to 102.7, its lowest level since last November. Both the Treasury and the Confederation of British Industry described the figures as disappointing.

The fall in production confirms that the recovery is patchy, although officials point out that industrial production in the second quarter as a whole is still 2 per cent higher than in the same period last year.

The breakdown of the figures shows that manufacturing output which accounts for roughly two-thirds of the industrial production index remained static between the first and second quarters. While output of chemicals, metals and textiles rose, the engineering, steel and food and drink sectors all registered declines.

The CBI said that the figures, while disappointing, provided evidence that the underlying trend in production was upwards, in line with its surveys. It expected output levels to continue to rise slowly.

The July price increases were almost entirely attributable to the 1½ per cent increase in mortgage rates and higher petrol prices which accounted for 0.45 per cent of the increase. Some food prices also fell but by less than usual at this time of year.

The Government's other inflation measure, the tax and price index, which measures how much earnings must rise to maintain living standards, is still running below the retail price index.

Mr Robert Sheldon, a Labour Treasury spokesman, described the figures as "an electoral scandal". Pensioners would have their pensions raised in November by only 3.7 per cent, the annual inflation rate in May this year, when prices would clearly be higher in the autumn.

Although the rise in the inflation rate was expected after falling to its lowest level for 15 years in May, ministers and officials are still confident that it can be held below 6 per cent by the year-end.

Owen warning, page 2

Lord Wigg dies aged 82

Lord Wigg, former Paymaster General and chairman of the Horserace Betting Levy Board, has died in London after a long illness. He was 82.

Lord Wigg was the Labour peer who broke the Profumo scandal to the world in 1963, rocking the Conservative Government of the time.

It was announced yesterday that he died peacefully on Thursday after suffering from the last five years from the little known disease, myasthenia gravis which attacks all the muscles of the body. He leaves a widow and three daughters.

It was only in his sixties that Lord Wigg began to emerge as a major figure in the Labour Party. Perhaps more than anyone else, he secured Harold Wilson's election as leader of the Labour Party in February 1963.

In the same year he was tipped off about the association of John Profumo, then Secretary of State for War in the Macmillan Government, with Miss Christine Keeler.

In October 1964, he became Paymaster General and chief political adviser when the Labour Party swept to victory under Mr Wilson and developed a reputation as the Prime Minister's tireless "chief bloodhound".

Lord Wigg resigned from the Government on his appointment in 1967 to the chairmanship of the Horserace Betting Levy Board. He was noted as a man with a passion for the turf.

Obituary, page 8

Lawson set to face dole cut revolt

By Our Political Reporter

Treasury ministers still appear ready to face a confrontation with Conservative backbenchers over a possible cut in the real value of unemployment benefit.

Suggestions that the Government is unlikely to press forward with consideration of the issue because the savings involved would be trivial were denied by Treasury sources yesterday.

It was pointed out that in mooting the possibility of a cut the main concern of Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, had not been to make admittedly small savings. He had in mind the "disincentive" of a high rate of unemployment benefit, and the view that some people were making a deliberate calculation that they were better off on the dole.

Mr Lawson said last month that it was not possible to give a guarantee on any particular uprating of unemployment benefits.

He said: "There can be no doubt whatever that at the margin there are people, even in present circumstances, who take a rational decision that it is not worth their while taking a job at the sort of pay at which jobs would be on offer."

But Mrs Margaret Thatcher later carefully left open the possibility of a cut when she went out of her way in the Commons to emphasize "that the pledge in the Tory manifesto to 'price protect' pensions and other linked long-term benefits did not apply to dole money."

The Treasury calculates that the savings from each 1 per cent cut in unemployment benefit would be worth only about £12m to £13m.

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Winter package holidays price war signalled by reprinted brochures

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

A new package holiday price war was signalled yesterday as Thomson Holidays and Birmingham-based Horizon both brought out reprinted brochures of winter sun holidays abroad, with prices cut by between 7 and 8 per cent on average.

The price war could also extend to skiing holidays, which is among the top three skiing specialists, has cut prices of a quarter of its holidays by up to 30 per cent.

Other tour operators with winter sun programmes which appeal more on keener pricing policies than the quality image underpinning Thomson and Horizon made no immediate response yesterday to the two market leaders.

At Intersun, one of the top three operators, it was argued that its existing prices would still remain competitive. But companies like Intasun could find themselves under increased pressure, possibly forcing them into making at least selective

special offers a little later in the booking season.

This summer Thomson reprinted its brochures with lower prices and seized considerable extra sales, largely at the expense of Horizon. Now Horizon has adopted Thomson's strategy of lower prices to gain from a higher volume of sales. It seems likely that Thomson and Horizon together will snatch sales from companies like Intasun.

Horizon is cutting prices of 160,000 winter sun holidays which is 80 per cent of the total it has on offer.

The strength of sterling against the tourist currencies had allowed the cuts to be made, Horizon said. With the big fall of the peseta against sterling, the best bargains are in Spanish resorts with cuts averaging 10 per cent, the company said. But holidays are also cheaper in Italy, Portugal, Morocco and Greece.

One 14-night holiday in the Canaries is being cut by £54,

from the old brochure price of £513. A £134 Spanish holiday is reduced by £14. Thomson has cut prices on 350,000 holidays, three quarters of those it has on offer. There is an average reduction of £15.

Both Thomson and Horizon are passing on the benefit of the lower brochure prices to anybody who has already booked a holiday.

The skiing holidays move by Inghams is aimed at sharpening Inghams' pricing in resorts and hotels where it is competing against other key operators which have pitched their prices lower. The biggest cut, of a quarter, is £188 off a 14-night holiday by air in Austria's Mayrhofen resort, bringing the cost in February to £337.

The initial reaction of other ski-tour operators was that Inghams was largely moving in line with market prices. But many Inghams prices are claimed to undercut the opposition - so discounting could spread.

Six firemen overcome by fumes

Six firemen were overcome by smoke and fumes while fighting a big fire at a chemical warehouse in Macclesfield, Cheshire, yesterday.

It took more than twenty firemen over two hours to bring the fire at the J and C International building in Fence Avenue under control, and houses near by had to be evacuated because of toxic fumes from burning PVC granules.

The alarm was raised at 5 am. At one stage a third of the warehouse, measuring 300 by 100 metres, was in flames.

The six firemen who were overcome had hospital treatment. Three later returned to Macclesfield fire station, but will go back to hospital for X-rays.

Greenham cases not dysentery

Two women from the Greenham Common peace camp admitted to hospital with suspected dysentery were suffering from gastro-enteritis, Basingstoke District General Hospital said yesterday. One has already been discharged.

Villagers win silo fight

Villagers in the Bourne Valley have won their fight to stop the Southern Counties Agricultural Trading Society building 19 grain storage silos on land at Newton Tony in the heart of the valley, near Salisbury, Wiltshire.

Salisbury district council, refused permission and at a public inquiry last June residents turned up in force to oppose it. The Department of the Environment has now dismissed the society's appeal.

Irish approval for local radio

More than thirty local commercial radio stations are to be established in the Irish Republic next year under an authority appointed by the Dublin Government, putting an end to RTE's monopoly of state-backed broadcasting.

Dozens of "pirate" stations which have sprung up over the past few years have generally been overlooked by the authorities pending legislation to replace them with legal local stations.

Police rush to toy gun game

A police car sped to a Sheffield polytechnic site and an officer jumped out yelling to three boys aged 13: "Drop your guns." Then the police realized the boys were enjoying a holiday "shootout" with toy guns.

Judge visits feuding families' battlefield

From Our Correspondent, York

A judge moved his court yesterday to a field near a village where two families have feuded for four years.

Judge Baker, QC, has presided over three country court cases involving disputes between Mr Brian Brook, a farmer, and Mr Ron Mallinson, a smallholder.

Yesterday he decided to view the "battlefield" on the edge of Melbourn, North Humberdale.

During almost 20 hours of cases Mr Mallinson and his wife, Margaret, have claimed that their life in their cottage has been turned into a "living hell" by the Brooks, who live 300 yards away.

North County Court has been told that the Brooks waged a war of harassment, involving training their albatross guard dog to bark all night and keep the Mallinsons awake, driving cars and tractors at them, destroying their property, turning other villagers against them, abusing and maligning them and sending them insulting messages.

Mr Brook and his wife, Jean, claim the Mallinsons have hurled bricks and insulted them, deliberately caused their

handicapped daughter to fall from her pony, and intimidated them by carrying tape recorders and cameras to provoke them into losing their temper, trespassing on their property and frightening their children.

Yesterday the Mallinsons were back in court seeking, for the second time, an order to have the Brooks jailed for breaking an injunction banning them from molesting the Mallinsons.

Mr Mallinson, aged 49, a self-employed demolition contractor, told Judge Baker the latest incident in the long battle was just two days earlier. Mr Brook, he said, demolished one of his fences with his combine harvester.

Mr Brook claimed Mr Mallinson deliberately tore it down himself to "frame" him.

Judge Baker then ordered all parties involved to travel the 13 miles from York to Melbourn so that he could see the whole scene for himself.

Judge Baker has already said in court that he is "frankly baffled" by the bickering.

The case is expected to end on Monday.

Prisoners join festival

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Four prisoners from Mountjoy Jail, Dublin, are to appear next month at the city's international theatre festival in a play specially written for them. The group, Exit, has been given permission by the Ministry of Justice to act in a public theatre for the first time.

The four men will be joined

on stage at the Focis Theatre by a professional actress to present *Fancy Footwork*, a 40-minute lunchtime play about boxing, written by Miriam Gallagher. She said that it would feature a stylized fight as a lot of the prisoners taking part in drama workshops were good at the sport.

Tories back GLC over green belt

By a Staff Reporter

The Government's proposals for new guidelines on development within London's green belt have run into new criticism, this time from Conservatives on the Greater London Council.

While the Government will not have been surprised by the attack on its plans from the Labour-controlled administration at the GLC, its announcement appears to have almost equally alarmed the Conservative opposition, whose planning spokesman, Mrs Joan Wicks, urged extreme vigilance to protect the future of the green belt.

It was recognized that there might be small pockets of land which could be released for housing, but "the essential objective must be to protect London from this encroachment", she said.

"The green belt is paramount to London's environmental well-being."



Scotland Yard artist's impression (above) yesterday of a man wanted in connection with the rape and murder of a girl a year ago, Yvonnea Yvonne, aged 17, was found by her family on August 13 last year strangled at their home in Belsize Park, north west London. The man, who followed the girl home a month before the murder, was in his early twenties.



Bird's eye view: A newly-hatched ostrich chick staying close to its mother at the Cotswold Wildlife Park in Burford, Oxfordshire. When more than 20 eggs were laid in the early summer it was feared that they would not hatch because the adult ostriches showed no interest in incubating them. But, as they do in the wild, the birds left the eggs exposed to the sun for long periods and let the British heatwave do the job. Four chicks have hatched so far. (Photographs: Chris Harris).

New sweeteners to go on sale

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

Six new substitutes for sugar will be permitted in Britain from September 6. Two of them are intensely sweet chemicals intended to replace saccharin, the only artificial sweetener permitted at present.

The Ministry of Agriculture said yesterday that final regulations approving the six sweeteners would be tabled officially on Tuesday and would take effect three weeks later. Approval has been expected for several months, after a recommendation by the Government's Food Additives and Contaminants Committee.

The two intense sweeteners, aspartame and acesulfame K, will receive most public attention as their manufacturers fight for the large market now monopolized by saccharin.

Animal experiments have suggested that saccharin may be carcinogenic, although it has not been proved to cause cancer in humans and it will continue to be permitted in Britain.

Britain will be the first country in the world to permit acesulfame K, a zero-calorie sweetener 130 times more intense than table sugar, which Hoechst developed in West Germany.

Although the company declined last night to disclose its marketing plans, acesulfame K is seen as a potential replacement for saccharin.

Its American rival Splenda already sells aspartame in several countries. The company plans to enter the British market with the sweetener from September 6, in the form of small tablet tablets called Candarel and as a sugar substitute for soft drinks called NutraSweet.

BR office 'removed by tenant'

A High Court judge was told yesterday that British Rail became the victim of a "sting" when most of a 42,000 sq ft former parcels office which it leased out in Sunderland vanished and some of it reappeared on a farm 60 miles away.

The building, which would cost £300,000 to reinstate, had been leased from BR for £6,000 a year.

Then, in what Mr Justice Falconer described as "an amazing story," most of the building was dismantled and sold.

Part of it turned up, re-erected, on a farm 60 miles away at Robin Hood's Bay, North Yorkshire, Mr Timothy Jennings, counsel for BR said.

He said that the premises, in Robinson Terrace, Hendon, Sunderland, were leased from British Rail in May by Mr Kenneth Burrell, of Ford Oval, Sunderland.

The judge, who had been shown "before and after" photographs of the site, granted BR a temporary injunction banning any more demolition work or removal of materials from the site pending a further court hearing.

Mr Burrell was not present, nor was he represented in court.

Silver raid inquiry short of corruption evidence

By Stewart Teasdale, Crime Reporter

A big Scotland Yard investigation into serious allegations of police corruption linked to a £3.4m silver bullion robbery in 1980 could end in the next few months without any prosecutions.

Sir Thomas Hetherington, the Director of Public Prosecution, was recently handed a new and comprehensive report, is understood to show that after two years investigation is still short of sufficient evidence for charges to be brought.

The DPP will have to consider whether fresh investigations should be carried out or whether the inquiry should end, leaving Scotland Yard to consider the possibility of internal disciplinary charges.

The problem for the investigators, a small team led by Deputy Assistant Commissioner Ronald Stevenson and Det Chief Supt Alan Staggs, has been the lack of witnesses coming forward to confirm allegations surrounding missing bars of silver worth £120,000 and a record reward of £180,000 which was paid out.

The allegations arose after 10 tons of bullion were stolen from a lorry on the A13 Barking Essex, in March 1980. Two months later officers from the Yard's robbery squad recovered 309 of the missing bars from a garage.

The DPP's decision is not expected for some time but the investigating team is understood to have already been reduced. Mr Stevenson retires at the end of this month after staying on beyond his original time of retirement to oversee the inquiry.

A second team of detectives is understood to be continuing on other allegations parallel to the corruption inquiry.

The Glorious Twelfth

Order returns in the great grouse race

By Stephen Goodwin

The social pecking order was reestablished yesterday when those who can afford £19.50 for lunch were able to eat fresh shot grouse in London's Park Lane, while lorry drivers who had hoped to sample haute cuisine at a transport cafe on the A1 had to do without.

Mrs "Tubby" Clark of the Café Blue near Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, believes she was the first to serve grouse in the South last year, upstaging the West End hotels. Yesterday was not so glorious, by lunchtime she had bagged a good 12 brace of ladies and gentlemen from the press, but not a grouse was to be had.

"It's such a shame," she said. However drivers who had hoped to have grouse, chips, baked beans and bread and butter followed by pudding and a mug of tea for £1.50, hardly turned their noses up at Mrs Clark's substitute, fresh Scotch salmon at the same price.

The regrettable absence of the Red Grouse was explained by Mr Edwin Cheeseman, manager of the Park Hotel in Bedford, who planned the operation. "They just have not shot anything," he said of the guns he was depending on, coming moors south of Edinburgh.

Mrs Clark never really stood a chance against the motor-cycles, helicopters, light aircraft and, in one case, Aston Martin's turbo-charged Tickford Capri used to rush the birds from Scotland to the West End. Mrs Clark's two and a half brace travelled part of their journey by British Rail and arrived in time to be served for tea.

It was the first public appearance of Aston Martin's new 145mph car, which carried

Miss Scotland, Isobel McPheeters, from Heathrow to the Grosvenor Hotel, bird in hand.

Late breakfasters at the Inn on the Park were able to sample grouse shot at dawn on Lord Cawdor's estate near Nairn. Ten guns, led by Lord Cawdor, set off across the heather shortly after 5 am and caught six and a half brace in just under an hour.

Although the bag was not as big as the organizers had hoped, Lord Cawdor said he was satisfied and there was enough to provide breakfast at Nairn's Golf View Hotel. The rest were flown south from Inverness by Dan Air, with passengers enjoying a taste of grouse at £3,000.

The race between three big hotel groups, Trust House Forte, Thistle Hotels and Stakis Hotels ended in a close finish.

The first grouse reached Trust House Forte's Cumberland Hotel, Marble Arch, at 8.32 am, only 11 minutes before the Selfridge Thistle Hotel received its birds. The Stakis team had missed their plane at Inverness and arrived at the St Ernie's Hotel, Caxton Street, at 9.35 am.

The winners collected three cases of whisky from Long John International but donated the equivalent value, about £300, to the Raimore Hospital, where it will go towards a diagnostic scanner.

Glorious Twelfth gimmickry seems to know no bounds. Miss Jennie Lee, aged 21, a legal secretary, leapt 3,000ft from a light aircraft with two brace of grouse tucked inside her flying suit for customers of Ye Old Bell Inn, Barnby Moor, near Retford, Nottinghamshire.

Village guns crack lordly image

From Ronald Faux, Ickernshaw

The men from the Yorkshire village of Ickernshaw were out at dawn yesterday waiting for the first quack to mark the start of their Glorious Twelfth.

It was not a gentrified shoot in the normal tradition. The local garage owner shattered the silence at 4.50 am by firing a gun he had not used for a year. Near him in the heather was the coalman, the electrician, a mechanic and a weaver. There were council workers and a joiner. All of them exercising an ancient right to shoot on the 999 acres of moorland as freeholders of Ickernshaw.

Mr Chris Robertson, who has been on the shoot every August 12 for the past 16 years, said the right was jealously defended. All it cost them was a £6 game licence for an entire season, while on the big estates one day could cost up to £700. "It's what I call a unique bargain."

The right had been given by a patrician mill owner and dated back beyond the days when loom workers stalked the moor wearing clogs and working men fought off a group of high-handed Halifax gentry with pick-axe handles to keep them off the moor. Strangers and non-freeholders were never welcome.

They have little in common with the hot polo on those other private moors where the ground is protected and controlled and the sportsmen wear billowing plumage. At Ickernshaw there are no

beaters to drive the birds into target clusters.

The lads hide in the hollows of the moor that carry such names as "Billy Hill's Ole" and "T'Standing Ole", waiting for the first grumbling croak of the cock grouse and the answering quacks of the hens before firing. After the shooting starts it is up to any freeholder to work the moor with his dog.

Birds beaten up from two neighbouring estates sometimes cross the Ickernshaw boundary and wish they hadn't. "Mind you, they get quite a few of ours, so it's fit for 'em."

The men have their own cunning skills at imitating birds. People remember John Willie Teal who never missed a day on the moor between August 12 and December 10. He could quack like a hen so that neither man nor bird could tell the difference. One veteran recalled: "The old cock birds would listen to him and all but perch on the end of his gun. He was a superb shot but could hardly write his name."

Mr Robertson summed up the day's success: "We did very well, a lot better than some moors where the weather and disease have ruined the shooting this year. I got a brace and a half which will do me nicely. The important thing was to exercise the right for the sake of Ickernshaw folk to come."

Bolton Abbey shoot, photograph, page 8

Bludgeon bomb victims, doctor advises

A doctor is recommending that victims of a nuclear attack should be put out of their misery with a crack on the head.

Dr Barney Williams gives the advice in a 10-point survival plan which he has been handing to his patients in Chippenham, Wiltshire.

Dr Williams said: "When a nuclear attack takes place there will be large numbers of people suffering from burns, compound fractures, crush injuries and radiation sickness, who will be in a lot of pain, very shocked and very ill."

"As no drugs will have been stockpiled for the population at large, it would appear that the best thing that can be done for them is to hit them over the head with a large stone. I am handing out the leaflets to my patients, provided I am satisfied they will not become mentally disturbed by them."

Dr Williams, aged 44, said none of the patients to whom he had given the leaflets so far had felt offended or upset.

He said: "The universal reaction has been one of saying 'thank you' for this. I gave it to

the wife of a senior RAF officer and he came in specially to say, 'You are so right, mate.'"

Dr Williams said he was not a member of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament or any similar organization. He had produced the leaflet in response to a Home Office request to doctors to draw up plans for the aftermath of a nuclear attack.

Another of his suggestions is that those about to die should not do so where they might pollute water supplies or cause disease.

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NHS 'could save extra £75m' by improvements in audit systems

By Nicholas Timmins

Health authorities should be able to double their present target of 0.5 per cent efficiency savings - the equivalent this year of about £75m - the Government has been told.

The improvements would come from a drastic overhaul of the National Health Service's audit procedures, with the creation of "value for money" units, that should produce year over year savings of 1 per cent.

That could be achieved provided sufficient management effort is invested in producing the savings, and provided that the money saved is largely available locally to improve services, a report from the Department of Health/NHS audit working group has concluded.

The report, from a team of NHS treasurers, auditors, and administrators under the chairmanship of Mr Patrick Salmon, chairman of the South West Surrey Health Authority, says: "We believed the Secretary of State is right in his assertion that there is no room for improvement in efficiency in the NHS without adverse effects on services to patients."

The policy of improving the "Cinderella" services of mental handicap and illness and care for the elderly must, with the level of funding allowed for growth, compel authorities to

reallocate funds within their present cash limits.

"Such reallocations are made much less painful if they can be funded by internal savings arising from improved cost effectiveness and value for money. There is every incentive now to invest in releasing resources from within the health service."

The report, which is being issued to health authorities for consultation, recommends that a "value for money" unit should be set up within the Department of Health and Social Security, responsible to the permanent secretary.

Each region and district should set up similar units with targets set for annual savings.

Apart from making savings, the report says that the health service's internal audit needs to be improved for its own efficiency and security.

The great shortage of expertise in computer audit had meant that where new computer systems were developed, adequate controls were not always built in at the right stage. "This situation must present a serious potential financial risk of considerable proportions and must be tackled urgently."

Report of the DHSS/NHS Audit Working Group. (DHSS (Leaves), PO Box 21, Slough, Middlesex, HP11 1AY, £3.80).

Going private, page 6

Computer aid cuts waste from rubbish

By Bill Johanson, Electronics Correspondent

Local authorities in Australia, the United States and Sweden may soon be using a British designed microcomputer system which predicts the cheapest way to run refuse collections.

The system was devised by LAMSA (Local Authorities Management Services Committee) and has been sold in some form to 200 local authorities in Britain. It can cut costs by up to 30 per cent.

Refuse collection is highly labour intensive; manpower accounts for over 60 per cent of the annual cost of £500m. The new system, which has been developed from one used on a

larger computer, is called Refuse Operation Systems Simulation (ROSS) and can be run on a Commodore Pet or an ICL DRS microcomputer.

LAMSA has high hopes for the system. It is intended to exhibit in September at a municipal conference in Detroit. The computer system is being used by three municipalities in New Jersey. The British computer package will be sold through a US agent.

Australian local authority representatives were in London two weeks ago to look at the system and the Swedes two months before them.

Young jobless likely to fill Forces places

By Rodney Cowton

Defence Correspondent

About 2,600 unemployed school leavers have shown interest in joining the armed forces for a year under the Armed Services Youth Training Scheme.

Recruiting began on August 4, and in just a week the Royal Navy had received 575 inquiries, the Royal Air Force 509, and the Army an estimated 1,500. The Navy is initially offering 350 places, the RAF 310 and the Army 1,250.

The Ministry of Defence said yesterday that all three Services regarded the figures as encouraging, and felt they would be able to fill the available places.

The scheme is open to unemployed young people aged 16 and 17. They will begin training between early September and early October.

Welsh language activists defaced signs

Members of the Welsh Language Society were removed from Newton magistrates' court in Powys by police yesterday as they protested against fines imposed for defacing English-language road signs with paint.

Before the court were three Aberystwyth University students: Lydia Margaret Griffiths, aged 18, of Pwllgwyn, Penegoes, Machynlleth; Tonwen Davies, aged 20, of Llanwenfa, Anglesey; and Helen Elizabeth Prosser, aged 20, of Parklands Crescent, Tonypre, Mid Glamorgan.

They were charged with criminal damage and carrying materials with intent to damage property. They refused to plead and were each fined £75 for criminal damage and £25 for carrying materials to cause damage.

They were fined a total of £300 on two charges and given a two-year conditional discharge on the rest. They were each ordered to pay £150 costs.

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International marine fraud

Net closing in on criminals

By Michael Bailey

Transport Editor

The net is closing in on the international criminals who made fortunes in the late 1970s from marine fraud. That is the confident view of the International Maritime Bureau, which was set up in 1979 after the scuttling of the oil tanker *Salam*.

Mr Eric Ellen, the director of the bureau, said yesterday that he was scuttling for insurance purposes and diverting ships to the cargo illegally at a different port had all but ceased.

Incidents of arson, documentary frauds, and selling goods that do not exist, although still common, have decreased.

Mr Ellen, aged 52, the former head of the Port of London Police, who has an office in London docks, said that although no one knew the size of the international marine fraud, there was clear evidence of a decline. "There has been an across-the-board reduction in the past few months. Scuttling, fraudulent charter and documentary crimes have all decreased."

It was the bureau which alerted the police about the arrival in British ports this week of £25m of Taiwanese toys and electrical goods that had been bought by a Taiwanese citizen on the strength of worthless cheques.

The bureau has continued to build up its international contracts, dossiers on suspects and the range of its communications and controls. Suspect ships are now required to report their position daily to prevent any "disappearances".

However, Mr Ellen attributes



Miss Kuo (above), in common with all International Maritime Bureau investigators, does not carry a weapon. But she is an expert in the martial arts. Miss Kuo, the daughter of a policeman, was a top investigator with the Taiwan police force before she joined the bureau. She left Britain this week to work on a new case in the Far East.

the decline in fraud principally to a greater awareness of the problem in shipping and insurance circles. "Our checks have shown that people in the industry are being more careful. But there are still some taking too many risks."

Ironically, it was the *Salam* case, when a passing ship saw the tanker being sunk, that alerted governments and shipping circles to the scale of its problems.

The illegal sale of the *Salam*'s oil to South Africa and its

Woman of 68 fought off killer son-in-law

A Birmingham coroner paid tribute yesterday to the bravery of a grandmother, who almost certainly saved her granddaughter during a triple shooting.

When her distraught son-in-law, Patrick Breslin, burst through a window with a sawn off shotgun at the family home in Birmingham last May Mrs Rose Meehan, aged 63, grappled with him in a vain attempt to seize the gun.

Breslin, aged 37, rushed upstairs and shot his estranged wife, Margaret, aged 38, twice. She died shortly afterwards in hospital.

Then, as his eldest daughter, Tracey, aged 10, came running from her bedroom, he shot her, killing her instantly.

Mrs Meehan, who had flown in from Ireland only hours earlier, shielded the younger daughter, Stephanie, aged eight and later carried her from the house and handed her over the fence to neighbours. Meanwhile Breslin reloaded, put the gun to his throat and fired.

The coroner, Dr Richard Whittington, recorded a verdict that Mrs Margaret Breslin and Tracy Breslin had been unlawfully killed and that Patrick Breslin took his own life.

Dr Whittington told relatives in court that they could be very proud of Mrs Meehan, who has since returned to her home in Co Donegal.

Det Chief Insp Roy Bunn said that had it not been for Mrs Meehan there was every likelihood that the younger child would have been murdered.

The court heard that the couple separated two years ago and Mrs Breslin took the children back to Ireland where they had married. She eventually returned to Birmingham and had moved into the house in Institute Road two weeks before the shootings. Before the separation Mrs Breslin had complained of violence by her husband towards her.

Two days before her death she went to a local police station to ask for police protection.

'Jedi' video pirates fined £300

Two men were fined yesterday for having the first pirated video copies of the money spinning film, *Return of the Jedi*.

Five sets of the film were found by trading standards officers when they raided a south-west London video shop in June. They were hidden among other pirated tapes in a box in a car parked outside Xenon Electronics in Wimbledon.

Wimbledon magistrates were told that 541 illegal tapes, some in a backroom and others on display, were seized from the shop during raids in March and June.

The shop manager, Yusuf Ali, of Kenilworth Avenue, Wimbledon, and the owner, Abdul Qureshi, of Melrose Avenue, Mitcham, south London, each admitted three charges of breaching copyright, 13 of offering to supply films and one of supplying a film, all in breach of the Trade Description Act.

They said they paid £10 for every tape but refused to disclose the source.

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Tight security in Lourdes irks the church

Bomb blast warning for Pope

From Roger Boardman

Paris

More than 3,600 policemen, all armed and some in plain clothes, will be in Lourdes tomorrow for the arrival of the Pope at the start of a two-day visit.

Security, already tight, was strengthened after a bomb rocked the first Station of the Cross near the basilica.

A group calling itself *Arrets Cures* (down with the clergy) claimed responsibility, saying the Pope was "the president and director-general of the Vatican multinational corporation visiting his French subsidiary".

Police yesterday found a large-calibre pistol in a luggage locker at Tignes railway station, near Lourdes, but later announced it to be a collector's copy that cannot be fired.

Vandals set fire to a fifteenth century church at Saintes, in Charente Maritime department, badly damaging the interior. Slogans spray-painted on outside walls read "Vive le Diable" (up with the Devil) and mentioned Lourdes.

In Lourdes, the church is highly critical of the tight security. Father Joseph Bordes, responsible for shrines at Lourdes and one of the organizers of the papal visit, said he hoped the bombing - "this desecration act of vandalism" - would not deter pilgrims. If it did, "that would be the end of civilization".

An estimated 200,000 people are expected in Lourdes. They will include several thousand Poles. Father Bordes said that if there are fewer than a quarter of a million people "that will be a true outrage" against the Pope.

Officially, the Pope's visit is pastoral. But, significantly, it will start with a private meeting with President Mitterrand. They will have much to discuss. The Church is unhappy about proposals to reimburse, through social security, the cost of abortions, and about plans to integrate Roman Catholic schools into the state education system.

About 1.9 million French children are in Roman Catholic schools, but the governing Socialists view them as elitist and reflecting the strong anti-clerical strain in French life, resent any state support for them.

The church is in poor shape in France. Although 80 per cent

of the French are nominally Catholic, only ten to twelve per cent are regular communicants, according to a recent survey.

Since 1965, the number of priests has dropped from 41,000 to 30,000, or fewer than one to a parish. Most French people

marry in church and have their children baptized and confirmed.

Lourdes, a town of 19,000 people in the foothills of the Pyrenees, remains one of France's great spiritual centres, devoted to the Virgin Mary and

St Bernadette.

Of 24 million visitors last year, the church estimates that more than three quarters were pilgrims. About 70,000 were suffering from ailments they hoped to cure in supposedly miracle-working waters.

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Church and state: Some of the 3,600 policemen who will be in Lourdes for the Pope's visit take up position outside the basilica.

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Journalist killed in Gulf War minefield

Tehran (AFP) - Mr Kikunori Momose, the Japanese correspondent of the Tokyo newspaper *Asahi Shimbun*, yesterday described how he and two other journalists were wounded, and a third killed, in a minefield in the Iran-Iraq battlefield.

Mr Momose, who is in hospital with a slight shoulder wound, said that at the time the mine exploded, the journalists were climbing Hill 340, recently taken from Iraqi troops in a recent Iranian offensive. The hill is a strategic point overlooking the Iranian border town of Mehriz.

He noticed, just before the explosion, that many small mines were scattered about the hillside.

Iranian troops had cleared a passage 28in wide through the centre of the minefield for the press party, accompanied by an Islamic guidance (Information) Ministry official.

The official and an Indian, Mr Najmuddin Hassan, Reuters correspondent, stepped too far to the left and were killed when a mine exploded.

Mr Momose in his hospital bed drew a sketch showing that Mr Hassan was only 10 yards away from the Iranian official when they were killed.

Mr Momose, who has been in Iran for 18 months, said: "Our guide, who was killed, did not have much experience of frontline conditions and the Iranian soldiers could not speak English so could not warn us of any dangers."

Mr Momose, an Italian journalist and an Iranian reporter were carried 300 yards to a lorry which then drove 12 miles over a rough road where they were given medical treatment before being taken by helicopter to hospital at Baghdad.

At present the three journalists are here in the Mustapha Khomeini hospital, named after the deceased son of Iran's religious leader.

Mr Hassan, aged 37, the father of two children, flew here only two days ago to relieve Reuters' permanent correspondent, Mr Paul Edie, who is on leave in Australia.

Signor Giovanni Castella, who has been here for the past three and a half years as correspondent for the Italian news agency Ansa, was slightly wounded, by shrapnel in the lung, for which he had a successful operation.

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Lindbergh killer's widow loses

Newark, New Jersey (Reuters) -

The widow of the man executed in 1936 for the kidnap and murder of the baby son of Charles Lindbergh, the American aviator has lost her attempt to have his conviction overturned.

Judge Frederick Lacey ruled on Thursday that Mrs Anna Hauptmann, aged 83, had failed to produce evidence to prove her husband's constitutional rights were violated during his trial. The statute of limitations had also expired in the case, the judge added.

Mrs Hauptmann filed a \$100m (£66m) damages suit in October 1981, alleging that the rights of Richard Brung Hauptmann had been violated by New Jersey's Attorney General at the time, Mr Richard Wilentz.

Zia strengthens role of president and sets martial law time limit

From Michael Hamlyn, Islamabad

President Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan last night unveiled his plans for new elections in the country. His scheme envisages constitutional changes strengthening the role of the president. The job seems tailor-made for him.

Elections are to be held before March 23, 1985, for provincial assemblies, a national assembly and senate. The date has some significance in Pakistan's history, as a government minister later pointed out: it is Armed Forces Day.

The President, who is also chief martial law administrator, announced, however, that martial law would end after the elections. He said the elections would be held on the basis of the 1973 constitution, with certain amendments.

Speaking in front of the Majlis-e-Shura, his nominated federal council, who sat in pairs at parliamentary desks and applauded by rapping the tops at frequent intervals, the President described the constitutional changes he proposed to carry into effect.

The Prime Minister would be appointed by the President, he said, though he would have to command a majority of the National Assembly. The President could dismiss the National Assembly and call fresh elections within 75 days. The President would have the power to send back any legislation he did not like for reconsideration.

Explaining this last point afterwards, General Mujibur Rahman, the Minister of Information, said it did not amount to a veto, but he did not indicate that there was any method by which the President's wishes could be overridden.

The only body able to override the President's wishes is to be a national security council, the composition of



General Zia: A tailor made post

which has yet to be disclosed, but which seems certain to provide for an institutional role for the military. The council will have the power to say when a state of emergency is to be declared.

The President was quite firm, however, that "there shall be no new role assigned to the armed forces". And the President would also have the power to appoint the heads of the armed services.

Although the new democratic arrangements are described as Islamic, General Zia emphasized that the country was not to be a theocracy. There would be no constitutional role for the Council on Islamic Ideology, even though, as was made clear later, the council had envisaged such a role for itself in presenting proposals to the regime.

The constitutional changes are Islamic to the extent that candidates standing for election must fulfil certain requirements of honesty and decency. It has not been made clear yet whether the national provincial elections will be run on a party-political basis.

Under the 1973 constitution the President himself is elected by members of the provincial assemblies and the National

Assembly. General Zia proposed no change in this arrangement, although he had been widely expected to announce a directly elected presidency. It was not stated, however, when the next presidential election would take place.

General Zia made it clear that he intends to stay in charge at least until the democratic process has fully worked out. The measures I have just announced, God willing, will be completed under my supervision," he said.

Wearing a neatly cut, grey civilian shirt and a high-collared formal national dress - he told the assembled council, who included 14 women neatly segregated on the left: "We will make the transition of power peaceful and smooth."

"There are people," he added, "who will try to sabotage this. But if they try to create chaos they will be dealt with severely and sternly. Islam does not like those who create chaos and trouble."

By making his announcement two days before his self-imposed deadline of August 14, Independence Day, the President has upstaged the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD), a coalition of banned political parties which plans a day of demonstrations for Sunday.

However, many leaders of the MRD have been arrested or have gone underground, as a result of a series of police sweeps in the past few days, and one of the main props of the MRD has been kicked from under it with the withdrawal of the National Democratic Party.

The fissiparous tendencies of the opposition, the increased activity of the security forces, and the general popularity of the Islamization programme seem likely to ensure that General Zia's new proposals will have a reasonably easy ride.

16 killed in Chile day of protest

From Florencia Varas, Santiago

Sixteen people were killed, 100 wounded and 700 arrested in the 24-hour protest called by the Chilean opposition against the regime of President Pinochet. The dead included three children, aged between eight and ten years.

The government, which brought in 18,000 soldiers from the army and navy, severely repressed the various demonstrations which took place in the streets and at universities.

The worst violence occurred on the outskirts of Santiago, in the shanty-towns La Horrida and La Victoria, where police entered several houses, smashing them up and arresting the occupants.

Santiago was like an occupied city: there was no special police squads. They were stationed under bridges and on the rooftops of tall buildings, while army lorries filled with soldiers carrying machine guns patrolled all sectors of the city.

As predicted, the armed forces were issued with orders to shoot to kill and in the Tobalaba area a group of boys who threw stones at the soldiers were fired on. Six of the children were seriously wounded.

A curfew was enforced between 6.30pm on Thursday and 5am yesterday.

The city was left completely to the military patrols, as all safe-conduct passes had been revoked, including those of diplomats and journalists, except for government and military officials.

Yesterday's protest, in which the opposition called for the resignation of President Pinochet, was the most violent of recent demonstrations. For the first time, despite the presence of the armed forces, the protesters paraded under their noses.

In the shanty-towns people built barricades and threw stones which were set alight, to keep out the armed forces.

In between the racket of pots and pans being banged - the characteristic opposition "noise protest" - one could hear shouts of: "It's going to fall, it's going to fall, the military dictatorship is going to fall."

The new Cabinet recently announced by President Pinochet, ironically called "the one which will lead to an open dialogue", had the worst possible debut with Thursday's events.

Yesterday the regime faced a formal accusation in court by the Commission for Human Rights over the way it reacted to the call for a "peaceful protest". The right to protest and dissent peacefully is enshrined in a document recently issued by the Supreme Court.



Sudden death: A council worker using his silenced pistol on a stray during an anti-rabies drive in Istanbul's slums. The disease has killed 20 people in Turkey this year.

The war of words over Chad

France rejects Libyan approach

From Roger Beardswood, Paris

French officials last night described as bizarre Libyan suggestions made through its official news agency Jana that France should join talks to end the conflict in Chad.

France's objections were apparently as much to the use of a news agency to pass on a message that should have gone through diplomatic channels, as with the content, which virtually invited France to end its support to President Hissene Habre.

The Foreign Ministry said: "We shall continue to support the legitimate government of Chad." The UN Security Council was due to discuss Chad, and France regarded that as a proper place for debate. Chad will also be considered by the Organization of African Unity.

The Ministry said: "We very much favour a local or regional solution, and if the OAU can contribute to that, provided the solution is acceptable to the Chad Government, we shall support its intervention."

There is relief in government circles here that President Reagan, in his latest statement on Chad, has apparently backed away from urging a joint Franco-American effort, emphasizing that Chad is mainly within the French sphere of influence and therefore its primary responsibility.

Until now the US has been talking of coordinating efforts. This has embarrassed the French Government because its own left wing and its Communist minority partners have been vehemently critical of France's playing what they see as a proxy role.

Mr Alam-mi Ahmad the Chad Charge d'affaires in Paris, said the Jana message was a new attempt by Colonel Gaddafi the Libyan leader, to sow confusion and discord between Paris and Ndjamena and between Paris and Washington.

"All constructive dialogue is impossible with Tripoli, because there is no sign at all of a change of political direction there," he said.

The French Ministry of Defence continues to be reticent and vague about the size and composition of the 500 French troops ordered to Chad. It still maintains that they are not there in a combat role, but has admitted that if fired upon they might fire back.

● WASHINGTON: By declaring that Chad is primarily France's sphere of influence, President Reagan has ruled out any direct US military intervention in Chad (Moshin Ali writes).

However he announced Colonel Gaddafi's "empire-building" making it clear to a hurriedly-convened press conference on Thursday that the US would continue to send military supplies to President Habre's Government.

But when asked if the US would allow Chad to fall to Libyan forces rather than intervene, the President replied: "As I have said before, it is not our primary sphere of influence. It is that of France. We remain in constant consultation with them but I do not see any situation that would call for military intervention by the US there."

The President also said he did not think that the fall of the northern oasis town of Faya-Largeau to Libyan and Libyan-backed insurgents on Wednesday marked the imminent end of the Chad war. He said that

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Faya-Largeau was a long way from the capital of Ndjamena.

When asked whether France should provide air support to Chad, the President said: "Well, as I say, I do not know what their plans are. Frankly we had believed at first that there was going to be some actual activity there. I do not know whether they are negotiating at the same time with Libya or not."

The President recalled that his Administration was giving emergency military supplies to Chad worth \$2.5m (£1.6m) and that the US had offered to transport troops from other African states to help President Habre's Government.

"But we are not in any way in line for participating militarily other than that," the President said, evidently setting limits on US military aid to Chad.

He added: "I think the whole attitude of Gaddafi and his empire-building is a concern to anyone. But the main concern is to the surrounding African states. They are all very much alarmed and disturbed because they believe that they are all under a threat."

● CAIRO: Egyptian authorities finally announced early yesterday that the Bright Star joint military exercises with 5,500 US soldiers had started after a 48-hour news blackout (AFP reports).

Amid rumours of cancellation, reliable sources said the manoeuvres had been launched around Cairo on Wednesday as announced in Washington on July 10.

The blackout, in contrast to publicity given to the last joint exercises in 1981, three weeks after the assassination of President Sadat, can be explained by Egyptian caution over the war in Chad, observers said.

Force ruled out against atoll landing

The Government yesterday rejected suggestions that it was planning to use a frigate to remove 36 coconut fibre merchants from a tiny island in the Indian Ocean, about 130 miles from Diego Garcia.

The Ministry of Defence said it had no plans to involve any naval vessel in the situation, which arose when the merchants from Mauritius landed illegally on the uninhabited atoll of Peros Banhos.

The attitude of the Foreign Office is that a representative of the British Indian Ocean Territory has had contact with the Mauritians on the atoll and that there is every reason to suppose that they will leave peacefully within a short time.

No political significance is being read into the Mauritians' presence on the island.

The frigate Andromeda, which had been reported as being on its way to remove the Mauritians, is in fact believed to be scheduled to make a goodwill visit to Mauritius later this month.

Money machine gets the bullet

Largo, Florida (AP) - A man confined to a wheelchair pulled out a pistol and fired six times at an automatic bank teller when the machine kept his plastic bank card and refused to give him the money.

Mr Thomas Jackson Morton, aged 34, a Vietnam veteran, admitted he lost his temper. He said he probably did not hear the machine keeping at him when he incorrectly entered his identification code. Police are considering charges.

Model freed by kidnappers

Florence (AP) - Ludovica Machiavelli, a descendant of the political philosopher, was freed by kidnappers on Thursday after being held for more than three months.

The 24-year-old fashion model's father said he paid a large ransom but declined to give an exact figure.

Actress flies in

Koo Stark, the actress friend of Prince Andrew, arriving in Sydney from London for a television appearance, and thereby ending speculation that the couple would meet at Balmoral after the Prince's return from a canoeing holiday in Canada.

Governors poll

Lagos (Reuters) - Nigerian voters elect 19 state governors today. President Shagari's ruling National Party controls only seven of the states being contested, but expects to win 16.

Memory clue

Portland, Oregon (AP) - The man severely injured in a traffic accident and now in hospital here thinks his name is David Miller and believes he is from London, but remembers little else. A London woman responding to a BBC broadcast said she remembered going to school with someone of that name.

Nkomo stays

Mr Joshua Nkomo, the Zimbabwe opposition leader who fled to Britain in March, has been given permission to stay for a further month, the Home Office said.

Leader returns

Cleveland (AP) - President Joao Figueiredo of Brazil has returned to Brazil, four weeks after undergoing heart bypass surgery at the Cleveland Clinic, Ohio.

Disaster aid

Washington (AFP) - The US Agency for International Development will send \$75m (£50m) in disaster aid to Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia, which are suffering the effects of floods and drought.

Refugees home

Nairobi - The Ugandan Vice-President, Mr Paulo Nuvunga, has told Parliament that most of the 10,000 people displaced by an anti-guerilla operation in Luwero district have gone back to their homes.

AIDS no help

New York (AFP) - A bank robber who terrified cashiers into handing over money by claiming he had the killer disease AIDS has been arrested. Garnett Wilson, aged 36, handed over a piece of paper saying: "I have AIDS and less than 30 days to live."

Diplomat's son in brief defection

From Leslie Gell (New York Times), Washington

The 16-year-old son of a Soviet diplomat here told his parents' car and ran away from home because he hated his country and loved America, according to a letter signed with his name.

By the time the boy had returned home to a Washington suburb less than 24 hours after his flight on Wednesday, he had created a diplomatic incident, involving the State Department, the FBI and police.

Some aspects of his disappearance remain a mystery. It is not clear whether government authorities, at the time they ordered the search, understood that the boy's departure

might involve a possible defection.

Soviet officials told the State Department that Andrei Berezikov, son of Mr Valentin Berezikov, a first secretary in the embassy, had taken the car but then returned home at 2 am on Thursday.

A letter in English, dated Tuesday and signed Andy Berezikov, was received at the Washington office of The New York Times on Thursday. The writer said he had also written to President Reagan asking for help.

"I hate my country and its rules and I love your country," the letter said. "I want to stay here."

Mr Oleg Sokolov, the Soviet

Minister-Counsellor, when asked about the incident, said: "The situation is perfectly clear. The boy is back home with his parents. As far as the authenticity of this letter, we certainly think it is a forgery, and it looks like a very clear provocation to us."

State Department officials said they were asking the Soviet Embassy for the right to see the youth, and that he should not leave the country before being interviewed.

The last case of a Soviet youngster running away in the United States occurred in 1980, when 12-year-old Walter Polovchak left his parents' home in Chicago to live with a relative.

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Reagan renews his broadside against Castro

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Reagan, worried by the increasingly sophisticated political machinations of America's Spanish-speaking community, yesterday denounced President Castro for selling young Cubans as cannon fodder to the Soviet Union.

Apart from ingratiating himself with Cuban exiles in the United States, Mr Reagan abruptly ended a period of calm in which both he and the Cuban leader have been sounding more conciliatory over developments in Central America.

Dr Castro set a more moderate tone a few weeks ago by offering to pull all his advisers out of central America if the United States did the same. Mr Reagan has been saying all along that he welcomed the gesture and was looking for evidence of sincerity.

But in yesterday's speech to the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in Tampa, Florida, he declared that the United States did not meet its responsibilities in Central America "he will pay dearly". The security aspect of the challenge must be addressed. Those who suggested otherwise were courting disaster, he said.

Mr Reagan's trip to Florida opened four days of speech-making before Hispanic groups, whose numbers continue to grow rapidly. Their political machine, long encumbered by squabbles reminiscent of those endemic in their former homelands, is at last showing signs of effectiveness. And, as President



Show of force: President Alvaro Magaña of El Salvador watching a display of air power on board the US aircraft carrier Ranger off the coast of his country.

Reagan knows, it is working in favour of the Democrats.

The President will hold talks tomorrow with President de la Madrid of Mexico in La Paz, during which he will seek Mexican support for his Central America policies.

Meanwhile the civil in El Salvador has resulted in the deaths of more than double the number of Government troops in the past year compared to previous years, according to reports reaching Washington. But all the signs are that the guerrillas - at least for now - are being beaten back.

In the year to June 30, 2,292 troops were killed in action and 328 were listed as missing. The increases reflect intensified efforts by Government troops and there is said to be an atmosphere of "real optimism" that the guerrilla forces are retreating. Any suggestion of victory, however, is absent from progress reports on the conflict.

● MANGUA: US backed insurgents blew up a bridge near the Nicaraguan town of Jinotega in the deepest penetration of their offensive, the Defence Ministry said (Reuters reports). The attack cut the town off

from a large area of northern Nicaragua.

● COMAYAGUA, HONDURAS: Some 300 US troops were setting up the nerve centre here for the largest military manoeuvres ever staged in Central America (Reuters reports).

The troops are establishing a communications centre, barracks and mess hall for exercises that will involve 5,600 US ground troops, 6,000 Honduran soldiers and three naval fleets carrying 16,000 military personnel.

Leading article, page 7

UN asked to take strong line

From Zoriana Pysarski, New York

With the war in Chad as a common theme the United Nations Security Council yesterday, continued to hold separate sessions as Chad sought to vilify Libya in one, and Libya tried in the other to portray the United States as the true adventurer in North Africa.

The Soviet Union which is trying to strike a balance between its allegiance to Libya and its attempts to court Egypt, called on the US to end imperialist meddling in Chad but stopped short of giving unreserved support to Libya.

Mr Korom Ahmed, the Deputy Foreign Minister of Chad, made an impassioned appeal to the council during the first session on Thursday to

take measures to force Libya to end its armed aggression. He said the conflict could no longer be characterized as a civil war between internal factions but as a war between Libya and Chad.

He described the Libyan forces as an armada of heavy weaponry which saw as its destiny the takeover of areas which went far beyond the borders of Chad into the Sudan, Egypt, Cameroon, Nigeria and Niger.

In Thursday's second debate the United States rejected Libyan charges that the Reagan administration was intent on the overthrow of the government of Colonel Gaddafi, calling them an attempt to confuse Libyan aggression

against Chad with a "smoke-screen of patently diversionary countercharges".

Mr Charles Lichtenstein, the American representative, said the motivating force behind Libya's brand of new colonialism was the Soviet Union. Libya had taken its complaint to the Council to protest against the joint US-Egyptian military exercises, as well as similar ones in the Sudan, Somalia and Oman.

While Chad, Libya and the United States issued hard-line statements which saw little scope for compromise other countries in the region - Egypt, Ivory Coast and Sudan - delivered speeches striking in their moderation.

Peking sends film crew

From Richard Hughes, Hongkong

China has sent a four-man team to Hongkong for the first time to make an on-the-spot film "to introduce Hongkong to Chinese mainlanders".

In the past documentaries for Chinese showing have been shot by Hongkong film companies.

The Peking team - writer, sound technician and two cameramen - will be assisted by Sui-Metropole, a Hongkong firm, whose assistant managing director, Mr Chen China-Po, said the documentary would

"concentrate heavily on Hongkong's economic system and close-ups of life and living - as well as scenery".

The unpublicized arrival of the Chinese team coincided with an official announcement that the Duke of Edinburgh will visit Hongkong on 15 October for two days on his Asian tour as international president of the World Wildlife Fund.

He will go bird-watching in Hongkong's New Territories.

British give cool welcome to Argentine move

By Rodney Cowles, Defence Correspondent

The Foreign Office yesterday welcomed the announcement from the Central Bank of Argentina that discriminatory financial restrictions on British companies had been lifted.

A spokesman for the Foreign Office said, however, that time would be needed to establish whether the restrictions actually were lifted.

Britain sees this as a useful step towards normal relations with Argentina, but its welcome for the Argentine move is qualified because it was the British understanding that these restrictions were to have been lifted as long ago as last September when Britain lifted financial restrictions.

This move, and also the recent call for an early resumption of negotiations on the future of the Falkland Islands, are seen in Whitehall as part of a process on the part of Argentina to prepare the ground for a debate on the Falklands in the United Nations General Assembly.

Business news, page 11

Druze exploit their hold on Beirut airport

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

Lebanese Government promises that it would consider demands made by Druze leaders after two days of fighting around Beirut that cost at least 27 lives prompted Mr Walid Jumblatt to urge the reopening yesterday of the capital's international airport.

Mr Jumblatt's Progressive Socialist Party militia announced in Damascus that it would respect the latest ceasefire in the Chouf mountains.

If the tentative contacts between President Gemayel's Cabinet and the Druze appear on the surface to presage some

fresh stability in Lebanon, it would be an illusion. The Druze are now claiming that Beirut airport is being used "for the purpose of subjugating us" - in the words of Mr Jumblatt's party - because Lebanese Air Force Hawk Hunter jet fighters based there are a threat to Druze positions in the Chouf.

Mr Gemayel cannot submit to Druze demands for the withdrawal of the Lebanese Army from the edge of the Chouf, and Druze requests that the Phalangist militia should be dismissed are unlikely to be heeded.

Israeli Cabinet meets in defence cuts crisis

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Urgent moves to rescue Israel from its most severe economic crisis continued yesterday when the Cabinet convened in emergency session at army headquarters in Tel Aviv to discuss proposals for a sweeping \$240m cut in the defence budget.

The proposed reduction is one of a number contained in a controversial austerity package drawn up by the Treasury in an effort to trim public spending by a total of \$705m. It has been vigorously resisted by Mr Moshe Arens, the new Defence Minister, and leading members of the military establishment.

At yesterday's unusual

gathering, army chiefs spelt out what they claimed would be the dangers of cutting military spending at a time of Arab army expansion in the region. In a speech before the meeting, Mr Arens said: "The choice before us is a better life or life itself, and the Israel Defence Force is life itself."

Economic experts have repeatedly argued that any attempt to solve Israel's economic difficulties will have to include a pruning of the defence budget, which in 1982 amounted to more than 25 per cent of the gross domestic product. The continuing involvement in Lebanon is costing Israel about £600,000 a day.

No final decisions were

taken yesterday about whether the Treasury scheme will be approved. Another Cabinet meeting is scheduled for tomorrow at which the whole austerity plan will be reviewed.

The moves by Mr Yoram Aridor, the Finance Minister, to stave off the economic disaster, threatened by hyperinflation, spiralling foreign debt and a balance of payments crisis, are likely to have wide-ranging political repercussions. They will come at a time when the ruling coalition of Mr Menachem Begin enjoys only a narrow parliamentary majority.

Mr Shimon Peres, leader of the opposition Labor Party, has demanded that the Knesset be recalled for a special session to debate the economic crisis, which has already resulted this week in a 7.5 devaluation of the shekel.

The Labor Party leader was sharply critical of the plan for education cuts and reducing pensions. He claimed the desired saving could be achieved by two measures: complete Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and a halt to building work in the occupied West Bank.

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THE TIMES DIARY

A head of steam

The joke among those awaiting the announcement of a new chairman for British Rail (caught up no doubt in the Tory line) is that Terence Higgins, though the Tory most likely to succeed to the job, can no longer hope to get it. The majority in his constituency is only 15,253. So here are a few names spotted in the marshalling yards: Lord Eccles's son and heir, John, deputy chairman of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission; Leslie Bond of the Rank Organisation, who wrote one bit of the Serpell report the Railways Board could bear to read; and Professor Robert Ball, principal of the London Business School and chairman of Legal & General, to whom the Prime Minister is still indebted. Do not blame me if what eventually turns up is someone completely different. Sir John Trelawny of the head-hunters Korn-Ferry has been looking for months, and has produced nothing acceptable yet. Candidates he interviewed included Joel Barnett, which is even further fetched than Francis Pym.

Editorial excision

My former editor, Sir William Rees-Mogg, has just taken his blue pencil to Sir Roy Shaw, former secretary-general of the Arts Council, of which Rees-Mogg is chairman. Rees-Mogg had originally cleared for publication in the Arts Council's information bulletin a vaudeville article by Shaw, "though there were queries in the office as to its appropriateness". The chairman's tolerant attitude changed when Shaw appeared on *Newsnight* with Rees-Mogg, his own successor, Luke Rintner, and the Arts Minister, Lord Gowrie, and charged that there was a direct line from Margaret Thatcher through the minister and the chairman to the new secretary-general. "It was an accusation he should know to be unjustified".

BARRY FANTONI



Curious how Gillian's Neville has started using a public call box?

Model to follow

With more spare time on his hands since he ceased to be chairman of the United Drapery Stores group, Bernard Lyons has written a psychological thriller, tentatively entitled *The Narrow Edge*. It concerns a woman with a mystery in her past which she cannot recall, and is in the hands of publishers in America. Lyons' only previous book was a privately printed volume of memoirs, *The Thread is Strong*, but the experience of his wife, Lucy, is some encouragement. An exhibition of her sculptures worth some £20,000 opened at Leeds City Art Gallery yesterday. She started 20 years ago with some modelling clay and a tea-cup and saucer.

● Reader's Digest is shortly to publish a condensed Bible here. The American version, produced last year, is called *The Reader's Digest Bible*. How it will be the Reader's Bible, for you, even the title is condensed.

Swept away

By rights, we should have been celebrating the diamond jubilee of the Spangler vacuum cleaner this week. Instead it was the seventy-fifth birthday of the Hoover. William Henry Hoover, owner of a failing horse and buggy business, persuaded J. Murray Spangler, an asthmatic caretaker in an Ohio department store, to part with the rights of the "electric broom" he had invented. As Adrian Room remarks in his dictionary of trade name origins, a Spangler vacuum could create "several favourable associations ('sparkle', 'spangle') that Hoover can never have". As to the diamond jubilee, Queen Victoria spent that by appropriating the jewel for the sixtieth anniversary of her accession to the throne, effectively ending its traditional association with seventy-fifth anniversaries.

● At the evening institute in Rostow, Essex, the coming season's art classes will be taken by Mr. Painter, woodwork by Mr. Joiner. Mrs. Frost is in charge of Christmas decorations, and lessons for these who wish to improve their bridge will be taken by Mr. Luck.

My local sandwich bar proprietor could have been luckier as to whom he

sold a cockroach sandwich. It went to a Camden council employee fetching refreshments for a meeting at the Health Education Council's offices, and ended up in the mouth of a principal health education officer. Poor old Pete was fined £50 and £15 costs for selling contaminated food. He has since sold his lively business and is now unemployed.

PHS

How a four-year-old imagined a papal frolic in London - with an invitation, and inducement, to fill a literary lacuna

Young Daisy's visitor

A previously unpublished work by Daisy Ashford, author of *The Young Visitors*, has been discovered. Her family claim that she dictated it at the age of four to her parents. It is called *The Life of Father McSwiney* and tells the remarkable story of a jaunt to London by the reigning Pope a century before John Paul II's visit in 1982. Full of naive charm and mordant perception - and better spelt than most works by infant prodigies - it will be published on Thursday by the Oxford University Press in a collection of works from Daisy's oeuvre entitled *The Hangman's Daughter and Other Stories*.

An introduction tells the story of Daisy's childhood, with a section on how *The Life of Father McSwiney* came to be written.

Daisy's papist story was discovered last year, when Oxford published *Love and Marriage*, three romantic stories by Daisy and Angela Ashford. An interviewer on the BBC *Kaleidoscope* programme about Daisy spoke to Mrs. Malcolmson, daughter of Daisy's sister Vera. Mrs. Malcolmson mentioned having read the biography of the sparky Jesuit priest, Father McSwiney, some years ago and quoted some choice passages from memory.



Daisy Ashford, budding best-seller

Henry Hardy of OUP, prince of the literary resurrection men, was listening to the programme and immediately got on the

trail. He telephoned Mrs. Margaret Steel, Daisy's elder daughter. Yes, she said, she thought she might have such a story in a drawer. It must have come back to her after Vera's death. When Dr. Hardy asked why it had not been offered for publication before, she replied: "It never occurred to me that anyone would be interested".

The first half of the story tells of the birth and childhood of James McSwiney in Cork, his piety ("full of a grand and Jesuit-like joy"), his first confession ("I should like to be so much, as I feel rather wicked"), and his confirmation at the age of seven with "a sine and a half" painted on his chest in black figures to persuade the bishop that he was old enough. When the second part starts, McSwiney is about to become a Jesuit. Now read on.

A few lines of the manuscript towards the end are missing. About 34 words between "was rather" and "they caught the fleas". *The Times* and the Oxford University Press offer a prize of the Compact Edition of the *Oxford English Dictionary* to the reader who submits the best suggestion for the missing passage. Entries will be judged by Henry Hardy of OUP and Philip Howard, Literary Editor of *The Times*.

THE LIFE OF FATHER McSWINEY

WHEN James McSwiney was about twenty-five, he began to be a novice for the Jesuit life. After he had taken his vows, he began to wear horsehair shirts, and very tight belts with gold buttons. He wore sandals half a size too large for him, and a floppy hat with a green band, to show he was a Jesuit. He bought himself a magnificent prayer-book the day before he went to the monks' college.

When he got there, a housemaid in a red frock came out and said, "You must be very quiet, Jesuit. For there are visitors. There are four priests, and two very ignorant bishops".

He was then led to a dear little sitting-room, in which he found a first-rate novel which he began to read.

In a few minutes a man cook came in, and announced that there was a holy priest named Father McAuliffe to see the Jesuit.

He had tinged curly hair, brushed back, and coming over one eye. He had most expressive pale blue eyes, which looked as if he had just come on a very long journey, and a tender mouth.

"How do you do, my dear Father McAuliffe," exclaimed Father McSwiney.

"I do very well, thank you," replied Father McAuliffe, in a sweet angelic voice.

"I expect," said the good-fat Father McSwiney, as he sat down, "you will be a canon in a few days, you look so dreadfully pious".

"Oh! well I don't quite know," said Father McAuliffe.

Then Father McSwiney blew his nose and began thus: "You know, I said the Mass of St. Bernard this morning, and I don't think it agreed with me very much, as I don't feel very well".

"I am so sorry to hear that," began Father McAuliffe, rapidly shrinking as he was not very strong: "it seems a great pity that a novice should not agree with his mass".

"It does seem a pity," said Father McSwiney, "but I never had a great devotion to St. Bernard".

"I am afraid," said Father McAuliffe, looking very sad, and timid, "that my Mission is very small, and somehow I'm rather uneasy about it".

"Is that so?" said Father McSwiney. "If I could convert a duke or two and send them down to you, that might make it better, mightn't it?"

"It would be so very kind if you would," said Father McAuliffe, "you see I don't quite know how to arrange my services; I have confessions before and after mass every morning, but the people tell so very few sins that the absolution isn't so long; so I can't sit peacefully there, and I think over what vestment I shall wear; and in my sermons I really don't know what to say. I either talk about the birth of our Lord, or obedience to the commandments of the Church, and I am sure the people must have heard it all before".

"That reminds me," said Father McSwiney, "that I had had three sermons given to me by Father Scraphim, and they are all written out; they might do - you could read them out on the three coming Sundays".

"It would be such a pleasure if you would send me two or three," answered Father McAuliffe. "I'm sure I will be most grateful to you, and I will say many Our Fathers and Hail Marys for you. I suppose I had better go and see the priest of this retreat place, if I have business to talk with him, if you do not mind my leaving you".

"Well to tell the truth, I am coming with you," said Father McSwiney, with a chuckle in his chest.

"You are lucky, holy Father," said a novice to Father McSwiney as he passed by.

"I know not the reason then," answered Father McSwiney, going upstairs.

At last he reached a small room, in which sat the Pope, holding the habit which Father McSwiney did not know he was just going to receive.

"I have brought you a habit," said Pius IX, holding out a brown habit with a hood to it.

"Thank you, dear Pope," said Father McSwiney, throwing himself at the feet of Pope Pius IX.

Five days later Father McSwiney knocked at the Pope's door.

"Come in," said the Pope in an ill voice.

"You have given me the wrong habit," said the good Jesuit.

"Have I? I thought you were going to be of the First Order of St. Francis," said the mild and innocent Pius IX.

"Please give me the black habit, if your holiness does not mind," answered the most beautiful-in-his-world Father McSwiney.

"Most willingly," answered the Pope, giving the black habit at that moment to the Jesuit.

"My most honoured thanks to you," and out went Father McSwiney.

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At retreat at Manresa was given by the Revd. J. Gordon Goodwin, and Father McSwiney was shown upstairs by him after having said a pious goodbye to the Holy Father.

The room into which he was shown was very small indeed: it was furnished with three chairs and a small table in the middle, on which was the Old Testament and other pious books. In one corner of the room in a very draughty place was a bed made of an old straw mattress covered over with a quilt. Where the fire ought to have been, but was not, was a small grove, made of oak wood. On this grove was a statue of Our Lady with two wax candles each side.

"Here," said Father Goodwin, "is your room: you see you have everything you want but your bath, and you will find that the opposite side of the landing. Whenever you are in here you must pray hard".

"Certainly, I shall be delighted," said the pious Father McSwiney, clasping his hands tight.

Next morning Father McSwiney jumped up and had his bath and then the Pope, who was in his dining-room, said that all the novices were to be taken to the meditation room to be tried on piennes.

This is how the Pope began: he said to Father McSwiney, who stood at the top of the class, "Say the Lord's Prayer".

Father McSwiney began in his low voice and after he had finished the Pope said, "What were you thinking about when you said it?"

"God," said Father McSwiney slowly.

"That's all right," said the Pope; "come here to me".

Father McSwiney walked up, his sacred face beaming with joy.

"Pax tecum," exclaimed the Pope, "you are the piouset of all".

Father McSwiney smiled and looked round at the other novices as if to say, "What do you think of that?", at which the other novices were rather insulted.

"I'll make you a Jesuit if you like," exclaimed the Pope.

Father McSwiney said "Yes", and this is how he was made a Jesuit. First of all the Pope washed his face in holy water and oil and then blessed him, and then he gave him fresh clothes and the Jesuit habit.

"Now," said the Pope, "you must stay in this monastery till you have grown a beard and then will be a Jesuit".

When his beard had grown he felt rather stuffy and wished monks could go without beards. And then a great event was to happen in honour of his being a Jesuit. A lovely mass was to be said at which the ladies were only allowed to sing the Kyrie. When the mass was over a lovely breakfast took place in the Manresa gardens.

There was first some lovely Italian coffee which the Pope had brought with him and some French tea, and then in the middle of the whipped cream, as they were eating them, the Pope said, "Let us make speeches - you begin, Father McSwiney".

Father McSwiney got up on a chair and said, "Clergy, ladies and gentlemen, as I have been made a Jesuit I stand on this rickety chair to give you thanks for coming to the entertainment. I don't mean to say that I think myself pious because I am a Jesuit - I might be very wicked. Oh how well I remember the first day I was in this monastery - and here he felt very like crying, and he got off the rickety chair and the Pope gave him a bun and an ice-cream in honour of his nice speech.

Then the Pope made his speech, but he stood on a throne and said, "Domine deus omnipotens et cum spiritu tuo in nomine Patris et Filii etc. This is a happy day. I feel cold and joyous and I return thanks to the darling Father McSwiney who is so humble - he says he is wicked but his goodness runs through my heart like sacramental wine".

Here the Pope began to weep violently, and nobody knew what for, but he managed to get off his throne, and said, "Archbishop, I beg you to give me a blessing as he thought he was going to faint, and two bishops were wine down his throat.

As the three walked together the waiter said, "There's a love scene in the play", and here the Pope nudged Father McSwiney.

There was a love scene, and it was very pious, and in it there was a great deal of conversation about St. Joseph, and Father McSwiney laughed with pleasure; in fact the Pope did too.

Between the acts they went out and had brandy and water and a pint of whisky toddy, and the Pope, although the Father of all Christians, thought it was quite necessary.

They did not enjoy Drury Lane as much as they thought they would, because the lady at the bar kissed her hand to Father McSwiney, and that they thought was very fast. So they immediately went to the Gaiety Restaurant to have a few mutton chops and fried potatoes.

In the middle of supper the Pope rang the bell for some mashed potatoes and gravy, and in came a red-faced tipsy waiter. The Pope was fairly astonished, and to show that he was so he poured two or three drops of water down the waiter's throat, and said to him, "See if it would make him come un-drunk, but it was no good".

So what do you think that talented Father McSwiney did? He made the waiter sit in front of the fire till he got his right senses, and then he sat beside him on the sofa and gave him full instructions on not being drunk, while the Pope looked on and smoked a pipe. After that awful adventure they soon left that restaurant you may be sure.

That night these two were very unfortunate. They could not find a bed anywhere, so they wandered about the low streets of London till they saw a fat old man, who volunteered to give them a night's lodging in his Public...

[Here a third of a page of the manuscript is torn off and missing] ... was rather ... they caught fleas and went to sleep.

The next morning the Pope told Father McSwiney to go and teach in St. Peter's College in Russia, and the good Pope went back to Rome after having had a merry trip, and then he left Father McSwiney with many tears and a little present of a pair of vestments and his photograph. And now Father McSwiney is very comfortable at Manresa where he first began his monkish life.

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Brief flowering of a girl of letters

The Father McSwiney story - part of the manuscript is shown above - adds another intriguing chapter to Daisy Ashford's brief but brilliant literary career. *The Young Visitors* was the product of her more mature years - written at the age of nine when her sisters were playing at shops at their home in Lewes, Sussex. But, like *Visitors*, *Father McSwiney* was put away in a drawer and forgotten; almost 30 years passed before it was published, with an introduction by J. M. Barrie.

Because of the sophistication of much of its style and content, many readers believed it was he who had written it - one chased the publisher down Wigmore Street shouting: "Did he, or did she?" Barrie was reluctant to endorse the book but most critics agreed that even without his preface, it would have become a runaway success - at one stage it was selling thousands of copies a year.

Daisy Ashford wrote several other stories, but her output virtually stopped when she went to convent school. The picture at left was taken in 1908, four years before her death at the age of 50.



The Hangman's Daughter and other stories is published by OUP at £2.95.

Peter Nichols

In stitches but not laughing in the Casbah of Cures

Not the Peter Nichols. Not the one whose pertinent reports on modern Italy you may regularly read in these pages, the one whose wife - according to mine, who is often mistaken for her - gives memorable dinner parties in the hills above Rome.

No, I was until lately a playwright and once wrought a play called *The National Health*, since with some reluctance - during Oliver's seasons at the Old Vic, all of 15 years ago, so that anyone under 30 will need to be told that it was a brilliant production with a large cast (20m, 10f) and gave a pretty grim impression of life in the medical ward of a London teaching hospital which I called the Sir Stafford Cripps. And anyone under 50 will need to be told that Stafford Cripps was the embodiment of post-war austerity.

The play had started from my own observations as a patient during three attempts to inflate a collapsed lung, but had become with each draft more ghastly, a process I now see to be an error of judgement. Still it was nothing like as morbid as Orwell's essay *How the Poor Die*, which was to some extent my model. This told of his spell in a Paris hospital in the 1920s and dwelt on brutal remedies and casual death with a relish that Swift might have envied. Yet for all that, Orwell's widow was among many on the left who thought my play a reactionary attack on the health service.

In fact, I have never doubted that the NHS was an aspect of public life for which every British person could feel some pride. Being well-served, it could not be harmed by criticism, only strengthened, so hardy and fruitful that no government would dare uproot it, so obviously right that private medicine would soon, like Marx's proletariat, wither away. We live and learn.

Brought down by a virus, needing a minor operation and faced with an intolerable waiting list, I have for the first time paid for treatment in Harley Street. The operation was carried out in the early morning. I woke from the general anaesthetic at 10 and looked out on a scene as busy as any in Tehran or Kuwait. Burnouses and veils passed to and fro in this new Casbah of Cures. Fathers, leading their families to the right counter in this Harrods of Healing. And where did the shopkeepers learn their business? In those same National Health teaching hospitals which I had sent up in that old play.

Perhaps the Aneurin Bevan would have been a better name for my ward because it was he, not Cripps, who swung the service on the BMA by exploiting a rift between surgeons

and physicians. Many welcomed it, of course, and most learnt to work within it and still do, moonlighting in Harley Street for only part of the working week. So why worry? If oil money subsidizes our national health, isn't that only Robin Hood in modern dress, a new distribution of wealth?

Who can blame a nurse for going private when her association has promised not to strike for better pay, believing their work to be outside politics, which of course no one's is. This tension will not hold. I do not believe that commercial medicine and a real public health service can live together for long. The last nail in the coffin of communism as killed by the Soviets

The tension will not hold. I do not believe that commercial medicine and a real public health service can live together for long. One of them must wither away. The question is, which?

was the news that they now allow a sector of private medicine. An area of privilege is no more necessary or welcome in health than in education. If Marxism is only to be an alternative view of history, most of us won't be concerned. What interests us is the practice of equality, which notion Mary McCarthy said was irresistible. In a world that values only profit, either commercial medicine or a public health service must wither away. The question now is, which?

We all know about waiting lists - I hear that a hernia may be done in seven years. An elderly woman friend of my mother's spent her savings on a hip operation that enabled her to leave the house. For advice on how to live with tinnitus, I would have had to wait two years - or two months if I paid. I not only bought my way up the queue but got a general rather than a local. "How the poor get cured" is an urgent, now as how they die. And "who are the poor?" is another question.

Drinking a post-operative coffee after signing my cheque, I browsed through the brochures. A new scheme aims to attract British customers by offering twin-bedded rooms at a cost that will come within the range of the private insurance companies. So now even the better-off British are - by the standards of Messrs Leech and Sawbones - the official poor. Com back, Stafford Cripps, all is forgiven.

Roy Strong

Now a golden oldie road report

Whatever I am doing about the house, whether struggling in the kitchen or writing a topical peacecock, I always have one ear cocked to Radio 4. What other service gives such extensive coverage of the arts as *Kaleidoscope* or the immediacy of *Today*, a programme that sets you up with all you need to know for the next 24 hours?

But, passionate devotee though I am, I have a complaint to which, I hope, the BBC's new chairman, Stuart Young, will address himself: repeats.

I have always accepted that *The Archers* has to be repeated, in fact three times in all. But now, increasingly evoking a scream, a shout of "Not again" and a flick of the off-switch, the archive is being extended to other programmes that formerly went out once only.

During the silly season especially, I suppose, impoverished planners have to paper over the odd hour or two at bargain basement prices. But can that really justify editing Richard Baker's entertaining *Start the Week* on Monday morning and broadcasting it again the same evening?

Robert Robinson's irritating vehicle for the opinionated, *Stop the Week* - thankfully off the air for the moment - is repeated only four hours after its first transmission on Saturday evenings to ensure that we don't miss any crumb of its perpetual demolition of everything from gardening to old-fashioned good manners.

Plays are endlessly repeated, though the intervals are much longer. Often a play strikes a familiar but disconnected note in the memory; phrases float around in the recesses of the mind, trying vainly to be placed. But all is revealed at the end when the announcer tells us that the play was first broadcast in 1976 or 1981 or 1965.

Concerts share the same fate, although music by its very nature is one long repeat, so it is far less obtrusive. It is repeats involving words that really nag.

The repeat cycle at its most devastating can begin on Monday with an extract from the programme devoted to what's in store for us during the coming week. There will be the programme itself and its repeat, then perhaps another dose in Margaret Howard's *Pick of the Week* on Friday evening - with a repeat on Saturday morning. Add to this sections used as trailers and one can be hearing either a whole programme or chunks of it up to eight or nine times within seven days.

Then, of course, there are the programmes devoted to recycling old material. The BBC archives have

proved to be a goldmine for every variety of reruns. There is straight comedy like the present Sunday luncheonette replays of shows mostly from the 1960s and early 1970s. Joyous in their heyday, they now do a positive disservice to Kenneth Horne, Kenneth Williams and Betty Marsden, their mainstays. Time has moved on so much that their topical

allusions are as remote as those in *The Shoemaker's Holiday*.

But the archive offers much more than that to the purveyors of nostalgia. With judicious editing and the addition of a commentary, "new" programmes can be created from dusty old recordings. The voices of the great can be cobbled into radio portraits and the vanished worlds of music hall or musical comedy made to live again.

It would be interesting to have the statistics on repeats. Is it my imagination or have they increased dramatically in the past five years? And with the BBC's diminishing resources, where will it lead? At the moment it looks as though Radio 4 could become one gigantic feast of repeats, apart from the News and I sometimes suspect there must be regrets at Broadcasting House that even this cannot be repeated.

Perhaps it could be. After all old news is safe; its disasters no longer devastate, its threats no longer ruffle.

And why not repeat old weather reports? The same applies to them. In fact, why not give over a whole wavelength to repeats and provide more time on Radio 4 for something new? It might be less frustrating in the end for planners and listeners alike.

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الشيخ محمد بن عبد الوهاب



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

WORRIED NEIGHBOURS

Mexico is more important to the United States than Israel, the whole of the Middle East, and probably Europe too. That importance may not be recognized explicitly tomorrow when President Reagan meets President Miguel de la Madrid in La Paz. Their discussions, it is said, will concern developments in Central America. Behind those discussions, however, there is a tacit acceptance that the fate of the two countries has become even more interwoven, so that both would suffer from any continuous disagreement over what to do in Central America.

Unfortunately that disagreement already exists in a form which may not allow resolution. The view from Washington is that developments in Central America could ultimately subvert Mexico. The Mexicans resent this attitude as one more manifestation of American paternalism. However, American suspicion of Mexican stability is long standing and well founded in view of recent Mexican developments - the scale of its problems and the unpredictable and mysterious nature of its politics. The collapse of Mexican stability, leading to insurrection, revolution, or just a prolonged period of economic and social disintegration cannot feature in any exchange of courtesies between the presidents, but it features in the minds of American policy-makers.

The effect on the United States of such a collapse in Mexico would be very serious. The two countries share a common frontier of 1600 miles. Their economies are similarly bound together. The United States is Mexico's main trading partner, the destination and source for more than three-quarters of Mexico's trade. Mexico has replaced the Middle East as the principal foreign source of American oil, while the United States in turn supplies Mexico with 82 per cent of its imports. There is an estimated \$7 billion

of direct US investment in Mexico. So, regardless of geo-politics, the United States has considerable vested interest in the performance of the Mexican economy. Washington has watched with justifiable concern the mismanagement of that economy by the last President, and the difficult stabilization programme of President de la Madrid. The Mexicans, for their part, can legitimately claim that the performance of the US economy has a critical impact on their own through the rise in interest rates which costs Mexico \$700m for each percentage point rise, given Mexico's need to service its huge international debt.

The Cuban revolution has already caused hundreds of thousands of refugees to flee to the United States. Social disintegration in El Salvador and Nicaragua has now created a new exodus of refugees to Southern Mexico and the United States. Today's difficulties would be tiny compared to the massive upheaval across the US-Mexican border should Mexico's indefensible policy start to disintegrate under the pressure of Cuban-inspired subversion spreading from Central America, and the strain of economic austerity at home.

Last year the United States received nearly 900,000 illegal immigrants across the border from Mexico. Legal crossings each year now exceed 200,000,000. The border is not controllable. Moreover, a Mexican Government dedicated to mischief-making could aggravate its relations with the United States by laying claim to territory beyond its border with as legitimate a basis for the claim as the Argentine one to the Falklands - in other words jurisdictionally questionable, but rhetorically popular in Latin America.

It is symptomatic of the Mexican unwillingness to share Washington's concern for these

matters that the Mexican Government prefers to maintain the status quo on the border, even though it festers in their bilateral relations. Mexicans seem to consider that it is a necessary safety valve within Mexico, to allow a sufficient number of its citizens to escape their social and economic difficulties by illegal emigration to the United States. That does not say much for Mexico's self-confidence in its future capacity to manage its own society in the face of further infection from Central America.

The trouble with Mexico is that the presidential system introduced with the 1917 Constitution does not provide for any real popular participation in presidential politics other than in the most formal sense of regular elections. The President is elected without having to reveal either his policies or the base of his political support. It is true that Mexico has avoided the military intervention that has characterized the rest of Latin America, but the health of this secretive, unpredictable and inherently arbitrary system of leadership cannot be taken for granted in the face of the sustained instability of most other countries in the region.

Under the influence of oil revenues the State has become more centralized in its planning. Mexico's leaders are more technocratic and less populist. That might augur well for the management of its economy in terms which would find favour with the IMF. But the nightmare for some Washington officials is that Mexico's technocrats will discover that they are out of touch with the scale of disaffection in the rural areas of their country as were the Shah's managers in Iran. It cannot be pleasant for Washington policy makers to visualize a future for the United States sharing a common frontier with a neighbour of 73 million inhabitants vulnerable to such political volatility.

VOTING WITH THEIR WALLET

It is not simply because it is fair (though it is) that Mr Norman Tebbit intends to give trade union members the right by law to decide, through a compulsory ballot, whether or not their union should have a political fund. The object behind the ballot is also the political one of quickening the decline of the left in a way that makes it more responsive to Labour's traditional voters, and also more conducive to political stability.

To this end, Mr Tebbit intends to write a firm and early date for the first ballot on the political fund into his forthcoming trade union bill, though no firm date will be given for the more complex change of ballots or union governing bodies. Unions will be obliged by law to ask their rank-and-file whether here should be a political fund, and to put this question within a year after the bill has received the Royal Assent, which is expected to be between April and June of next year.

If the ballot had not been held by the given date, the existence of the fund would be illegal and Conservative trade unionists could, and would, challenge it in the courts. The virtual certainty that it could be successfully challenged, and the fact that it is an entirely open question how trade unionists would vote nowadays explain why the ballot is realistic as well as fair. For if in one sense this is an exercise in political expediency, it also meets the changed facts of public life.

Twenty years ago, even ten, no Conservative government would have contemplated imposing a ballot on political funds because they would have known that it would have been fair, then as now it would have been reasonable to be sceptical about figures which suggest that in some unions practically the whole of the membership want to pay the political levy. Everyone knew then, as now, that some unions

have their ways of making contracting out very difficult. But even so, until very recently, such a ballot would never have separated the majority of trade unionists from Labour, which they regarded as their own party, whatever its faults. Ballots on political funds would merely have registered the solidity of individual trade unionists support for Labour.

Now it is self-evidently different. Increasingly, trade union leaders do not properly represent their ordinary members, and the voting figures for the Conservative and Alliance parties show the decline of trade unionist loyalty to Labour. The system by which union leaders can affiliate to the Labour Party as many millions of their members as they have funds to buy votes with, and use those votes to swing Labour policy to the left, is clearly a political abuse. The system was always theoretically unfair but that did not matter when trade unionists fully supported the way in which their money was used. Now it is questionable how far they do and it is right for them to have the chance to say. They can still vote for a political fund (which will be used to support Labour) if they wish, and for the time being, almost certainly, the great majority of unions still will.

To make the change fair, Mr Tebbit ought to act in precisely the same way to ensure that shareholders of companies periodically sanction gifts to political parties, in practice the Tories. The majority of shareholders will still probably approve such donations, certainly so long as Labour poses a threat to the private sector. So far it does not seem that Whitehall has been set to work to determine how this should be done, but the kites flown by Mr Tebbit and Mr Cecil Parkinson that they are prepared to act on companies' political donations ought to be followed up.

The immediate purpose of the ballot is to put a stop to the automatic provision which en-

ables union leaders to use their members' funds as 18th century political patrons used their rotten boroughs, whether the majority of their members like it or not. The fact that the consequences of the ballot are largely unpredictable is itself a justification for the change. The bill will only require each member to be asked whether he or she supports a political fund. It will not require them to be asked which party that fund should support. But there is no reason why unions should not put that question also, and there may be increasing pressure on some to do so.

Though the bill is only concerned with the automaticity of funding, behind it lies the further thought that the ballot may assist the rise of the SDP in place of Labour. Before the election the Conservatives were reluctant to say or do anything that might promote the SDP for fear that it might harm them and bring a hung parliament. But the election has established that the Alliance mainly takes votes from Labour, and as Labour's post-election decline and leftwards swing have quickened, more defections seem likely and the chances of an augmented SDP replacing Labour have entered the realm of the possible.

Some ministers at least have therefore come to see the desirability of this in order that the free and mixed society which Mrs Thatcher seeks to establish should not be overturned, and they would be happy to see the SDP swap places with Labour by the next election. However, the ballot for union funds assures the SDP of nothing. Though it could eventually bring the new party some support its virtue is that it is a permissive bill, and it will be fascinating to see what use some unions (the white-collar ASTMS, or the electricians) make of it. It cannot be wrong to give them a chance of a little more say over what happens to their money now that a wholly new question hangs over politics and their true opinions.

A better deal for those on remand

From Ms Jill Cove
Sir, The news item by Peter Evans (August 4) on the plight of remand prisoners must surely give rise to a number of questions in the minds of all caring people. Many of these remand prisoners will eventually be acquitted of the charges against them, or, if convicted, will be dealt with by non-custodial sentences. They will have no opportunity to claim compensation for the degrading treatment received whilst on remand.

To allow remand prisoners to remain in police cells, where conditions are even more cramped, unhygienic and de-humanising than prisons, is nothing if not intolerable. To learn that some are manacled together during their 15 minutes' exercise is even more atrocious. The £1.4m that has been spent during the first two months of this financial year could and should have been reallocated to provide more bail accommodation, not only in hostels administered by the Probation Service, but also those run by the voluntary organisations.

Sentences should be reminded again of the need for a presumption for granting bail, even though many seem to accept police opposition to bail without apparent question. Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, has gone on record as saying that he is determined to stop the use of police cells to house remand prisoners by the end of the year. So far, there has been no evidence of a proposal as to how this will happen. In any case, members of this association believe that four months is too long to wait.

Yours faithfully,
JILL COVE, Vice-Chairman,
National Association of Probation Officers,
3/4 Chivalry Road,
Battersea, SW11,
August 4.

Parents and Pill

From Dr David Cowper
Sir, I have read your leading article, entitled "Parents and the Pill" (July 27) and found that you put forward both sides of the discussion cogently, but I do not think the writer can have been a doctor who has been directly faced with a request for contraception from a girl who is under the age of sixteen.

Firstly, I would say that in my own experience it is a relatively rare occurrence. Usually by the time someone of this age group asks for contraception they have already been sexually active. There are a smaller minority who take "the pill" merely to keep up with their peer group and are not sexually active. In the past I have delivered more than one 13-year-old of her first baby and a 14-year-old of her second baby. I admit that these types of confinement are rare, but are never the less traumatic for all concerned, including the doctor.

I would suggest that prescribing contraception to sexually active girls could reasonably be construed as good preventive medicine. As far as I know there is no published evidence which shows that a girl or young woman using an oral contraceptive is therefore more liable to be promiscuous.

I think Mrs Gillick would have a justifiable case if she could show that doctors are actively persuading their younger female patients to use contraception against the wishes of the patient. I do not believe that any of my colleagues are adopting this type of behaviour. It appears that girls who are sexually active early in their lives often come from homes where communication within the family has been poor, or has broken down. I believe that having legal sanctions to back up parents would almost certainly limit discussion within the family even more. It might also act as a lure for physically mature, but emotionally immature adolescents, on the basis that "forbidden fruit" is often more tempting and challenging. Yours faithfully,
DAVID COWPER,
33 Chertfield Avenue, S.W.15.

First Jewish MP

From Mr Alan Searle
Sir, With all due deference to Mr Stephen Shick's letter (August 1), it would nevertheless seem that the first Jewish MP, at least to fulfil his duties, albeit with rather unusual results, was Sir David Salomons, sometime Lord Mayor of London. He was elected as a Liberal member for Greenwich in 1851, taking his seat and voting in the House without being sworn in the statutory way, for which offence he was fined £500. Yours sincerely,
ALAN SEARLE,
67 Fitzgibbon Road, E11.

A Nicaraguan treaty

From Mr Frank Griffith Dawson
Sir, The letter from Mr Jeremy Corbyn, MP, and others (August 1) concludes that Britain has a responsibility to find a peaceful solution to the Central American crisis. Their argument would have been more effective had they identified with greater precision the grounds upon which that responsibility rests.

During the eighteenth century English colonists settled along the Caribbean coastlines of Honduras and Nicaragua, when they were shielded from Spanish attack by the fierce Mosquito Indians. Even after the settlements were abandoned in 1786, English traders from Belize continued to cultivate the Mosquito friendship. In 1842 Mosquito King Robert Charles Frederick died, leaving a will appointing the Belize Superintendent Regent of his kingdom during the minority of his heir.

Striking a balance in medical needs

From the President of the Institute of Health Service Administrators

Sir, Your well informed leader, "Balance sheet of medicine" (August 4), rightly drew attention to the need for more truth and frankness by both Government and health authorities in considering how to meet growing demands in times of increasing financial stringency. More and more the debate ought to be about alternative priorities and standards of care, not about clever ways to balance the books or meet the centrally imposed manpower targets.

None the less, it is important that the public know the full extent of what you rightly describe as the developments which have been making the NHS since the election. While there has been a good deal of debate on the possible effects of the recent financial cuts (£140m in the current year), it is still not known whether they are to be recurring, but health authorities are increasingly fearing the worst and planning accordingly.

In addition, substantial NHS manpower reduction targets were announced just before the parliamentary recess and so far these have received very little public attention.

Health authorities are currently considering how best to meet a total staff reduction of 6,000 to 8,000 from the position last March, by next April. While just under one per cent of the total NHS labour force, this is in excess of the reductions required by the financial cuts: it has to be achieved in under six months, despite low current staff turnover and anticipated strong trade union resistance and will detract from the efforts being made by NHS man-

agers to find the most cost-effective solutions.

As your leader points out, the targets increase central control, despite the Government's stated aim for the recent reorganisation "to ensure that as many decisions as possible are taken by local health authorities" (Patients First, HMSO, 1979). The targets could produce the ludicrous effect of authorities paying out more, either to their own staff who, while reduced in number, will earn more by increases in bonus or overtime payments to cover the work, or to contractors, not because they are cheaper, but because they employ staff who will not count against the authorities' targets.

In either case the net effect will be less resources for patient services and already some authorities are postponing priority developments for which they have the funds, while others may have to reduce services further than they need to keep within their cash limits.

The NHS is used to living with financial uncertainty and has consistently improved its productivity. NHS managers understand that they may well have to operate with fewer resources while continuing to develop agreed priority services. They are more likely to do so, without resorting to the Whips Cross type of restrictive solution, if they are allowed to develop their own most cost-effective plans without constant fluctuations in their resource assumptions and arbitrary central controls.

Yours faithfully,
R. M. NICHOLLS, President,
The Institute of Health Service Administrators,
75 Portland Place, W1.

Harvest of change

From Lord Walston

Sir, It is not time to stop trying to pin solely on farmers the blame for changes in the countryside? Can we not face the fact that the whole of England, rural and urban, is passing through a period of rapid change, some of it unwelcome to one minority group or another, but most of it bringing benefit to the majority?

There are many things that I, as a relatively prosperous countryman, might regret. My nearest town, Cambridge, is very different from what it was when I was young. Old buildings have disappeared and been replaced by large, and usually ugly, office blocks. Small shops and cheerful shopkeepers have gone, and instead are impersonal supermarkets and chain stores. Cars can no longer park in uncluttered streets, but must go to multi-storey car parks.

The village, that I have known all my life, is twice the size it was 40 years ago. Cottages formerly lived in by farm workers and their families are now, enlarged and modernised, the homes of commuters or retired people from far away. Paddocks where a few cows used to graze are now sites for bungalows. Ponds and

water courses regularly dry up in the summer because of water extraction for the use of distant towns.

Others, less fortunate than I, suffer from motor-ways or by-passes bisecting their land or running within yards of their formerly peaceful gardens. Some have airports on their doorsteps.

All these things, like modern farming methods, noisy bird scarers (far less noisy than motor-bikes), continuous working late at night (but never more than two or three times a year), are essential parts of a dynamic scene. They bring annoyance and sadness to some, usually the comfortably-off and middle-aged or elderly.

But even to these people, and still more to millions who are less fortunate, they have brought the prosaic advantages of running water, indoor sanitation, ease of access to different and lovely scenery - and an assured supply of food, the cost of which has risen less than that of most of the other things on which we spend our money.

Yours truly,
WALSTON,
Town's End Springs,
Thripplow,
Royston, Hertfordshire,
August 10.

Criminal evidence

From Sir David Napley

Sir, Mr Douglas Hurd's carefully phrased answer (August 2) to my letter (July 20), will simply not do. There may be a basic Home Office circular to the police recommending that scientific findings, having a bearing on the case, should be made available by the police to the defence, but in 46 years' experience of criminal justice I cannot recall a single case in which it has so far happened.

Mr Hurd asserts that in summary trials the results of any examination which the prosecution proposes to use in evidence are supplied to the defence. Apart from certificates as to excess alcohol in drink driving cases this is not correct.

It has been the procedure for many years, under the Magistrates Courts Act, for copies of statements to be supplied in advance of the committal proceedings. This has nothing to do with the laboratories and is the predecessor of cases the scientific statements are so worded or edited that the matters which may assist the defence are not generally self-evident.

The Attorney General's guidelines for cases to be tried on indictment are relatively new. Unhappily, up to this stage nothing has been guided in my direction in any case with which I have been concerned.

If the Home Office desire to achieve justice why must these recommendations be made to the police? Why cannot the defence have direct access to the laboratories without going through the police? Why are the scientific laboratories not made independent of the police?

Finally, why does Mr Hurd think it entirely reasonable that a Home Office scientist is not allowed to consider, and give evidence in regard to, a specimen which has been the subject of report by another Home Office scientist? Scientists, including the laboratories, make mistakes and often form a different opinion on scientific artefacts.

If justice is the objective why is it reasonable to prevent a different scientific Government laboratory, from being presented to the Court?

Yours truly,
DAVID NAPLEY,
107-115 Long Acre, WC2,
August 2.

Theatre museum

From Mrs Jack Emery

Sir, Mr Hodsman (August 6) refers to cultural activities and the heritage as an optional extra to be paid for only when the nation has already paid for its defence, education, health and social welfare. In so doing, he perpetuates a fundamentally erroneous view of national priorities and one that does much harm to the arts.

The claims of all components in our national life must legitimately exist side by side. It is the interplay between them that defines the character of British society at any one time. And the values of that society are continually expressed

and challenged in what we call "the arts," our traditions of literature and criticism, of music and the visual and performance arts.

The idea that the storing of "theatrical ephemera" is crucial to the national interest can easily be ridiculed. So can a consignment of bedpans or a delivery of ground sheets. That is to miss the larger point of national cultural identity.

What price education with no new writers or playwrights? What price health and welfare with no sustaining cultural values? What price defence when there's nothing left to defend?

Yours faithfully,
JOAN BAKEWELL,
20 Chalcut Square, NW1.

Making a charge for forecasts

From Sir Henry Smith

Sir, The leading article in today's Times (August 10) headed "Everybody's weather," reminds me of a period many years ago when we gave much thought to the underlying problem. I then occupied a post in the Air Ministry.

The basic dilemma is this: the Meteorological Office, at considerable cost, produces an "output" which is both non-material and, for the most part, of ephemeral value. Either this output is of value or it is not. If it is not, then the Met Office should be abolished. But if it is, as is demonstrably the case, then to the extent that it is not made use of, money spent on the Met Office is being wasted.

It can indeed be argued that having spent a large sum of money in producing this potentially valuable information, the sensible thing to do is to spend more money, if necessary, to ensure that the effort has not been wasted: to see that the information is used as widely as is economically and socially profitable.

It was not easy to convert these principles into practice. As far as I can remember, we decided that the general output of the Met Office should be freely available to all and that every help should be given to the press and broadcasting authorities to disseminate it as widely as possible; and that only where special arrangements had to be made to meet an industrial or commercial requirement should a charge be levied.

On this basis it would be wrong, I think, to seek by whatever means to raise a charge against members of the public who ask questions by telephone and thus assist the forecasters to make better use of their expensively-acquired ephemeral information.

Yours faithfully,
H. T. SMITH,
130 Wansley Road,
Wallingford,
Oxfordshire,
August 10.

Attlee's Korean policy

From Professor Alan Thompson

Sir, General Sir Anthony Farrar-Hockley's lucid article today (Special Report, July 27) on the Korean war clearly makes his forthcoming book on the subject obligatory reading for all students of postwar political, military and economic history. I would add only one observation to his treatment of the British involvement in this war. This was the crucial role of the Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee.

His decisive leadership in the Cabinet led to the immediate despatch of two battalions (two months ahead of our promised brigade group) to defend the Naktong river where, as Sir Anthony points out, a brave and skilful North Korean force was on the verge of breaking through.

As a young Labour parliamentary candidate in 1950 I knew something of the intense opposition to Mr Attlee's stand from within his own party. Throughout all this pressure and manoeuvring, Mr Attlee remained cool, consistent and determined. The fury of his opponents, at party conferences and elsewhere, failed to move this quiet, implacable man from his chosen course of action.

Mr Attlee did not believe that the problems of Asia could be solved by military victory. Furthermore, his experience at Gallipoli in the First War left him with no illusions as to the sufferings and sacrifices of war. As far as the South Korean regime was concerned he never believed that Mr Syngman Rhee was a reincarnation of Abraham Lincoln or a dedicated reader of John Stuart Mill's *On Liberty*. He also had grave misgivings (as did President Truman) about General MacArthur.

What he did know, however (from the tragedy of Eastern Europe) was that under Stalin, a larger tyranny threatened the world. His prompt despatch of a military force helped to avert this threat.

In domestic political terms, Mr Attlee's achievement was outstanding. He committed the Labour Party firmly to a policy of collective security against aggression and gave it new confidence in its role in world affairs.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN THOMPSON,
11 Upper Gray Street,
Edinburgh,
July 27.

Missing the point

From Mr John Bennett

Sir, Like Mr Yorke (August 9) I have noticed many new opportunities afforded by the absence of punctuation on signs. Many farms in the Home Counties now offer the chance to "Pick your own car park".

In truth, the comma has merely been redeployed as an apostrophe. For example, at Glasgow Central station a list (without commas) of stations served includes Milton Keynes.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BENNETT,
97 Woodlands Avenue,
Wansley, E11,
August 9.

Intimations of mortality

From Mr M. O. Carruthers

Sir, "Those socks," observed my wife, "eyeing first the pair I was wearing and then my nether regions, 'are on their last legs'".

Yours sincerely,
M. O. CARRUTHERS,
Fisherman's Creek,
Pillory Hill,
Noss Mayo,
Plymouth,
August 1.

Paid jobs for all

From Professor D. A. Bell

Sir, It does not need high-powered research to answer this question in general terms.

Some could be traditional jobs if traditional economic activity revives. Some will arise in the development of "new technology", but these will be predominantly for those with intellectual skills: it was acknowledged in a December, 1984, White Paper (*A New Training Initiative: A Programme for Action*, Cmnd 8455) that jobs will be more plentiful at the level of technician and above than below. The historical trend, which is already visible in other countries besides the UK, is

for employment to move from manufacturing to service industries. There are three related questions which do deserve the attention of the Government:

1. What future is there for older men who have been "thrown out" of obsolete jobs and are not adaptable to the new types of employment? Should they have the option of an early pension in place of lump-sum redundancy payment?

2. The employment of the unskilled has always been precarious and will be more so in future. Can we organise society so that there are no unskilled? If not, what do we offer them?

3. The key to everything is that productivity in the UK should be doubled and labour costs reduced

and that we cease to import such a high proportion of manufactured goods. This will not be achieved by merely adjusting taxes and interest rates, so what is to be done?

Historically the Government has always said that it cannot create jobs but will create the conditions for industry to provide employment. On this policy the Government should be looking for answers to these three questions rather than trying to pinpoint particular job opportunities.

Yours faithfully,
D. A. BELL,
87 East End,
Wallington,
North Humberdale,
August 2.

THE ARTS

Television
Basic humours
by accident

The first of four comics to explore the roots of his humour in the new series *Comic Roots* on BBC 1, Michael Palin of the Monty Python team, traced its beginnings back to a father who used to place fake dog messes on the carpet shortly before guests were expected. Palin's sense of humour as a child was similarly basic. His best friend's parents recalled that his favourite job was to be a lavatory attendant, and that some of the rhymes he made up were rather rude. His old geography master, who obviously hadn't heard of him, remembered him as "a clever boy, quiet, not humorous really - but of course we didn't have that kind of humour in those days, did we?"

Travelling back to his adolescence in Sheffield, the point came across through reminiscences with old friends of how accidental a comedian's career is. If he had not been invited to join an amateur dramatic group by a colleague at the steelworks he had gone into after failing his Cambridge interview... if he had not then gone to Oxford and struck up a comic partnership with Robert Hewison (now

Cowardice
Ambassadors

Once upon a time in the West End, the star-part play was almost a genre in itself. Playwrights often wrote them for spouses: Marion Lorne, Constance Cummings, Hugh Williams.

The trouble is that nowadays you need a little intellectual weight, and preferably social concern, to flesh out the glamour. To give your leading man and whoever is doing the leading lady the chance to preen as Noel Coward and Gertrude

Theatre
A grave mistake

Lawrence they have to be unemployed theatre buffs living in a dream world.

So, in the theatre where the Master gave a celebrated prompt from his stage-box on the opening night of *Hay Fever* and fumed when Gielgud and Baddeley went a bit too far in *Fallen Angels*, Ian McKellen and Janet Suzman now play a brother and sister in a Peckham basement rehearsing a Cowardish play, supposedly dictated by Sir Noel from the grave, with champagne bottles full of supermarket ginger ale.

Whereas Boy and Babe, for such these children are called, defend theatre as "magical entertainment", Sir (Nigel Davenport) has marched into the video-taped theatre market and, along with all the old disdain for television that the Ivy, across the road from The Ambassador's, must have been

hearing for decades, attaches no special importance to great classical roles or the theatre in general.

Sean Mathias, the author, is an actor and how much it shows in this nostalgia for something that many of us love, but not in this way. That, however, is as much point as the play has; that and the related interplay between theatrical fantasy and the reality of meeting fellow-actors in the drole queue, or on shopping trips pilfering sardines. There is even an attempt to carry into *Private Lives* the squalid world of incontinent old women and a paraplegic squashed by a bus in his wheelchair.



Ian McKellen, Janet Suzman

Promenade Concert

L2 cenerentola
Albert Hall/Radio 3

Glyndebourne's new *Cenerentola*, which Paul Griffiths acclaimed on this page a month ago, arrived last night at the Albert Hall, though John Cox's demi-semi-staging on a sloping dais above the orchestra had about as much in common with his Sussex toy-theatre fantasy as dark corridors and tins of Coke have with greenward and champagne.

It was an evening of brave and enterprising ideas, exuberantly realized and enthusiastically received. But since there was not even the illusion of costume to facilitate total apprehension, the "action" until it really got going, seemed little more than mime to aid comprehension. Maria Taddei and Laura Zannini as the sisters behaved like a pair of awkward

mannequins; and the male chorus, in spruce and vigorous voice under the watchful eye of Jane Glover, were lined up at the back in their DIs - just as if it were already Sunday and the St John Passion - only to leap into action, prancing on the spot as Dandini's knights, or hovering around Don Magnifico as a flutter of Italian waiters.

With the tiny stage constantly militating against any sort of movement appropriate for Rossini's whirling score, ensembles seemed too often like rather poor music hall routines, except when Mr Cox wisely suited them, as in the riveting Act One finale crescendo or the marvellously tongue-rolling sextet of Act Two.

But as the evening progressed, these irritations were for the most part dissolved into the sheer vocal drama and ripeness of what from the very

beginning has been a particularly strong cast. Indeed, a performance of the order of Claudio Desderi's *Don Magnifico*: every tiny gesture of face and voice articulating, and rolling out his smugness, deceit and frustration, argued in itself for the adequacy of straight concert performance. His double act and that of Laurence Dale's Ramiro with Alberto Rinaldi's delightfully dry, patterer Dandini, were little *jours de force*, while Roderick Kennedy towered physically and vocally as Alidoro.

Above all, Kathleen Kuhlmann, her voice clinging, bending and rippling with every turn of Rossini's vocal line, was a radiant Cenerentola. With the London Philharmonic, working hard under Donato Renzetti, she almost magicked us back into that darker, smaller auditorium.

Hilary Finch

Anthony Masters

WEEKEND CHOICE

A Complex Heart (tomorrow, BBC 2, 8.10pm), an essay on Gustave Flaubert by Julian Barnes, embellished with lustrous pictures by the cameraman John Elise, is all the better for its lively rejection of the academic approach. Flaubert the man is here as powerfully as Flaubert the writer. And so strongly is he here in Mr Barnes's commentary that, with all due respect to the actor Richard Brehm who is got up to look like Flaubert and confides quotations to the camera to considerable dramatic effect, Mr Barnes is really the only other living person whose presence on screen is indispensable.

If, as Mr Barnes assures us, Flaubert is the literary icon to which he has referred since he was 15, then he does not prostrate himself before his idol. Rather, he views the icon with a respectful, ironic eye ("Graham Greene has referred to the writer's need to have a chip of ice at the bottom of his heart. Sometimes, Flaubert seems to have a whole refrigerator down there."). And there is an irresistible final flourish in Mr Barnes's reminder that, on the site of the house where *Madame Bovary* was written, a paper factory now stands. Not, however, for making toilet paper.

The 20th Century Remembered (tonight, BBC 2, 8.30pm) is the third - and, so far, the best - extract from Kenneth Harris's four-part interview with Dean Rusk, the former American Secretary of State. It could hardly have been otherwise, for it takes in not only the Cuban missile crisis when we tottered on the brink of the Third World War (Mr Rusk puts it better when he talks about Washington and Moscow looking down at the cannon's mouth and not liking what they saw), but also the assassin's bullet that ended the Kennedy "Camelot" years, and, above all, the Americans' involvement in Vietnam. Away from the scene of conflict, Mr Rusk talks interestingly about the world's debt to Britain for its pioneering work on the notions of liberty under law and the imposition of constitutional restraints on the exercise of power.

Peter Davaile

Radio
No appetite for
Main Course

"Good God," we said, "What's this?" The day was last Saturday, the time soon after 8.30 pm and we had just switched on the car radio in an attempt to ease an endless journey down the length of the M4. We found ourselves in the opening minutes of what was plainly a *Saturday Night Theatre* and one in which the early indications were unpromising.

The reasons for this soon took shape. The dialogue strove for sharpness and did not quite make it: actors, well aware of falling short, pushed their lines accordingly. The quality of the writing sounded even worse than it was. There emerged the outline of a rather forced story about a lady running a cordon bleu home catering service whose impact on the lives of her clients extended beyond the gastro-intestinal tract. I now see that the note of effortful desperation in the dialogue was occasioned by its attempt (like a pair of ill-inflated water-wings) to keep this none too buoyant frame afloat.

By now, mercifully, my front seat passenger had fallen asleep, but the other, I am well aware, was listening with growing disbelief and I found myself blushing for those high standards of radio drama in defence of which I have more than once bent his ear. We stopped at Membury service area and the sound died with the engine followed by muttered imprecations from the back seat. When we set off again, no one suggested that we broke the now blessed radio silence. On Sunday morning I referred to the *Radio Times* and found we had been listening to a rather well cast programme from Bristol: *Madam Main Course* by Peter Terson (director, Shaun MacLoughlin). Had I known of the author and the actors while I listened, might I not have done a little bending over backwards to find virtue? Almost certainly.

Dramatic honour was redeemed by Gilly Fraser's *Somewhere Else* (Radio 4, Aug 1 and 7; director, Kay Patrick in Manchester) a play set in a not too distant future and in the wake of some catastrophe - probably a major explosion at Windscale - referred to as *The Accident*. It was plain that Britain had become a kind of police state with labour camps, extermination centres for blacks and other such trimmings. The play's strength lay in the fact that this very nasty situation (from which a poisoned sea precluded escape to the "some-

David Wade

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44-47	48-51	6.49	14.86	28.82
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MARKET REPORT

US fears subdue trading

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin Monday. Dealings end, Sept 2. Contango Day, Sept 5. Settlement Day, Sept 12.

The Market ended the account on a very subdued note as nervousness ahead of the US Treasury money supply figures rekindled fears of higher US interest rates. This was despite the better performance seen in New York bond markets on Thursday.

The government broker took advantage of a minor rally in gilt prices to issue a new tap stock, £800m at 10 per cent convertible in 1986, after the market closed. Gilt dealers expressed surprise at the rate, suggesting that the Chancellor obviously expects the 10 per cent base rate to last for some time.

Leading shares were neglected after Thursday's flurry, causing the FT 30-share index to fall by 3.7 to 722.1 at the close.

Nevertheless, there were many good features among secondary stocks and most dealing interest was seen in speculative favourites. And in that arena there was much to keep jobbers busy, despite their complaints of stock shortages.

Among the big names, P&O deferred another 3p to 205p on Mr Jeffrey Sterling's

appointment and on the thought that he would have to introduce some major plans to beat off Trafalgar House.

Speculation is mounting on where Associated British Foods is going to spend the £200m it raised by selling off its South African interests. Mr Garfield Weston, the chairman, had told analysts that the "no poaching" arrangement he is said to have had with the North American family interests - the Westons own Fine Fare Supermarkets in Britain - does not exist. So market rumours have it that a big US purchase may be coming. The shares have firmed off the 140p year's low and stand at 154p, some way under the 180p bid.

BET, where Sterling Guaranty holds 4 per cent, also gained another couple of pence to 278p after being at 280p. Optimistic

statements from the chairman this week helped the price.

The reported stock shortages appear to be particularly acute in the insurance sector, after good figures from two of the majors earlier this week. Sun Alliance jumped 25p to 1,230p. Pearl firmed 27p to 700p and there are revived hopes of a bid coming for the company.

Gains were well spread throughout the sector but Guardian Royal, where interim figures are due at the end of the month, climbed 11p to 506p. Royal Insurance, whose figures are due next Tuesday, were up 10p to 518p and Refuge firmed 4p to 382p.

In lacklustre banks, Standard Chartered featured with a further climb yesterday of 7p to 504p, setting a new 1983 peak ahead of September's figures, which are expected to show a sharp profit rise.

Among brewers, Scottish &

Newcastle held steady at 87p, despite an alleged 1 million shares awaiting sale. British Leyland also hit a new 1983 peak of 44p, up 7p, on rumours that the company was gearing up Jaguar and Rover as sell-off candidates.

The shares of J & J Makin Paper Mills are worth watching. Though not well known or actively traded, the cash rich group saw its shares jump to a new 1983 peak of 210p on talk of record profits for the year and a possible sale of a share stake.

In the same sector, Group 3 Lotus rose 2p to 52p on return to profitability.

The widely forecast introduction by Boots of a pain-killing drug prompted some profit-taking which knocked down the shares 7p to 161p.

Mr Robert McAlpine obviously has good investment

intuition. Contrary to the market's view, his holding company, Newarthill, does not look like bidding for Whease, the engineers, where a 16.5 per cent stake has been built up.

Newarthill has no record of takeover bids, but the 9.5 per cent stake held in UBM, at present under fire from Norcross, will make Newarthill £6.7m at the present bid price. So if that form is anything to go by, someone else may be stalking Whease.

The reason for the increase in the share price of Prince of Wales Hotels over the last few days became apparent yesterday when it announced a big hotel acquisition from Epicure, which takes and 8.3 per cent stake in return. The shares lost 5p of the recent gain and closed at 118p.

A bumper set of figures from Prestige, plus an extraordinary dividend payment, did wonders for the share price which soared 41p to 230p. A well-kept secret.

A newsletter plug for TACE put another 14p on to the shares at 128p, while Leasons firmed a few pence to 40p on the same basis.

AT ISSUES

AT ISSUES	Price	Change
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Concluding our two-part series, Brian Grant considers some modern aids to easy living now available to yacht owners

Out goes galley slavery, in comes home comfort



Below decks in a modern yacht which is intended for comfort, there is much scope for ingenuity of design. All the facilities we have at home and more, must be specially contrived and crammed into small irregular spaces so that they work reliably in a severely restrictive environment. Among the essentials for creature comfort are cabin heating, ventilation, sewage, storage of drinking water, electrical power, lighting, cooking fuel, food storage, and even a telephone.

Such services are provided with varying degrees of technical complication, depending on the size of the boat. The largest yachts will go as far as full air-conditioning and desalination plant, whereas the smallest will make do with a jerrycan of tap water and a single-burner Primus stove. In between, the average family yacht about 10m in length enjoys increasing ingenuity of design, with modern materials and techniques to provide convenient and efficient living in a limited space.

Leaving aside the endless technicalities of the engine and navigation areas, here are a few items selected for their purposeful design suited to the needs of a medium-sized yacht.

Rapid inflation

£350. Penguin Engineering, 20 St Thomas Avenue, Hayling Island, Hampshire (07016 5607).

Stopping the jam roll

⑤ The "jar-bar" is adjustable to take screw-top jars with necks from 1½ to 3in diameter. It can be fitted to the underside of any surface, or onto small wall brackets. The materials are rigid plastic with stainless-steel fastenings. The jars screw up against a soft rubber sheet, so the device is suitable for food contents, as well as the hundred and one small items carried for spares and repairs.

An end to the clink (and sometimes crash) of sliding jars as the yacht tacks and rolls is welcome, and the old adage "one hand for the boat and one for yourself" is good advice for below-decks when under way. So the "jar-bar" comes into its own in a well-stocked bin. Obtainable from Maylin Products, Leighton Buzzard (0525 377098) at £7.95, or from major chandlers - typically Captain Watts, Albemarle Street, London W1.

Instant liquidity

⑥ In the galley and toilet areas, domestic luxury, in the form of hot and cold running water, is now relatively simple to provide. The first small movement of the tap closes a micro-switch to start an electric pump; and for hot water it simultaneously activates a gas heater. All the components are small and light. A basic cold-water system with pump, pressure-switch and outlet starts at £75 from Munster Sims Engineering, Old Belfast Road, Bangor, County Down, Northern Ireland (0247 61531).

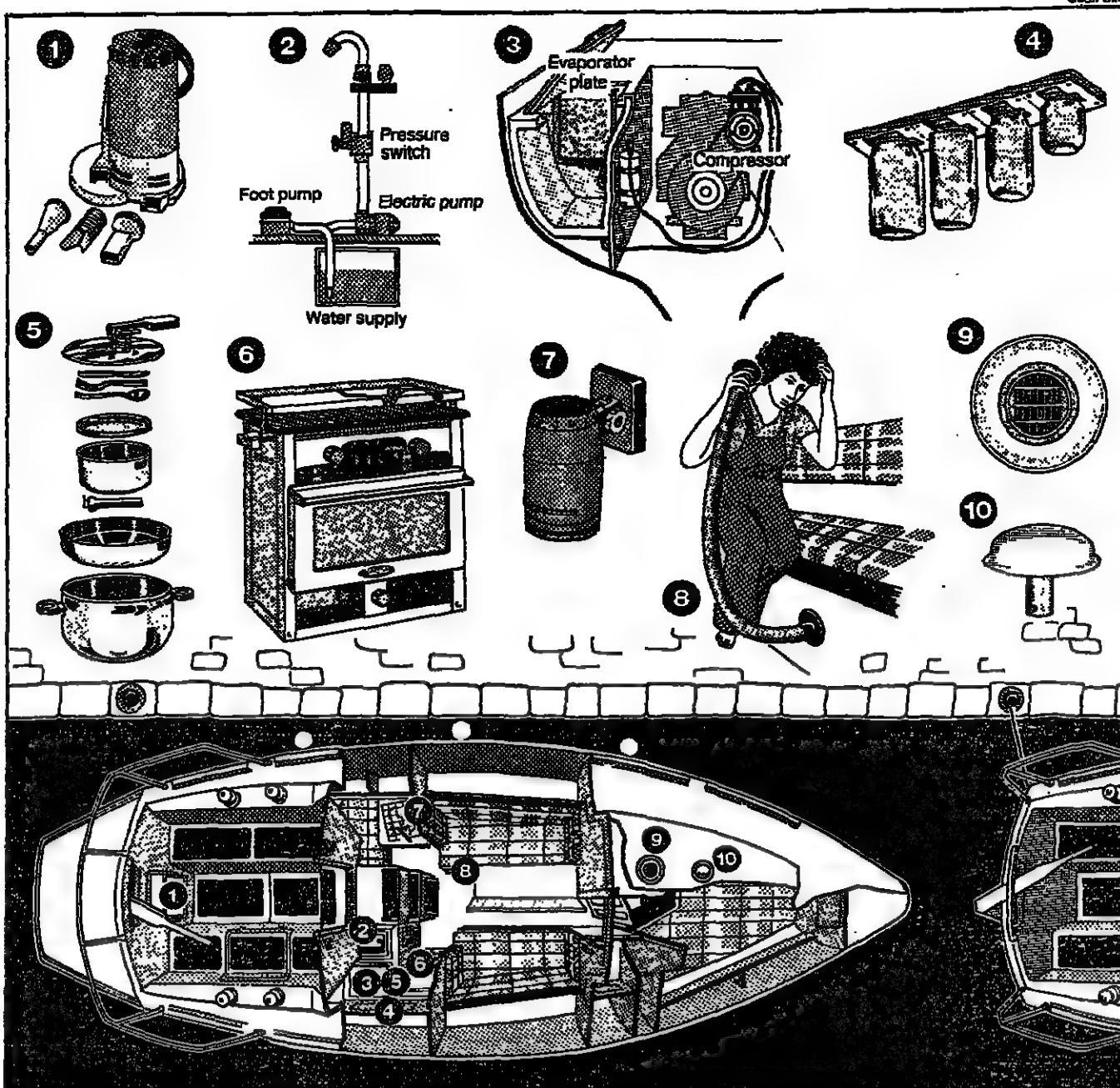
Captive coldness

⑦ Refrigeration is a problem in all but the larger yachts. Electrical supply is limited when the engine is silent, and although there are numerous small, irregular shaped storage spaces, there are no convenient large spaces in which to put a self-contained refrigerator, unless it was planned when the boat was built.

The Fridgeboat solution is to distribute the machinery in convenient places, requiring only a large evaporator plate to be housed in any suitable insulated compartment or, indeed, in more than one. A small compressor bolted to the engine is driven directly by a belt. On average, less than 30 minutes of engine running will give 12 hours of "silent coldness", enough for a 5.6 cu ft compartment, before the plate needs recooling. Typical price for a set is £800. Where electrical energy is available, it can be put together down to

Hot victuals

⑧ For oceanic voyages, cooking by paraffin still has much to recommend it, being far less hazardous than gas, and more easily stored and measured. A modern stove makes lighting up easy, and if kept clean will definitely not smell. This latest design from Blakes of Gosport has a stainless-steel body and a gimbal to stay upright as the yacht rolls. The stout fiddle rail, with adjustable clamps, discour-



ages pots from migrating across the cabin as the boat slides down the back of a wave. Two regulating and self-priking burners become a grill when the lids are in place.

The oven has a double paneled glass door and can be maintained in excess of 260°C, giving full baking capacity. Obtainable from Blakes & Sons, PO Box 15, Gosport, Hampshire (07017 2341) at £347. For those who prefer gas, a model at £374 offers four top burners with combined oven and grill. It has automatic lighting, and the gas is automatically shut off in the event of flame failure.

Drop of colour

⑨ Whiter shades of pale are the favourite decorating colours of the season and now you can mix your own paint at home to exactly the colour you want. A new range of paint additives comes in syringes so that the colour can be added, drop by drop, to cans of white gloss or emulsion. There are eight colours - apple, hyacinth, magnolia, rose, dawn, sunset and daffodil - which come with a guide card which suggests 20 possible tonal variations. Or, if you are adventurous, you can blend colours together. By Dicolor of Devon, the Hint of a Tint range is available at £1.25 for a 20ml syringe, which will tint from one to 25 litres of paint. From W. H. Smith Do It All branches.

Baby buoy

⑩ To make sure the smallest

Light reading

⑪ A salt-laden atmosphere is notorious for its long-term effect on switches and electrical contacts, so any reliable fitting is usually expensive. This Aquasignal non-magnetic chart-light or reading light can be adjusted to give an angle of beam to cover only the area required. The five-watt halogen bulb gives a strong light for a small electrical current. A yachtsman needing to retain his night vision when coming below to glance at the chart, needs to use the lowest level of white light with which he can

manage. This design uses two rotatable polarized discs to allow full control of the light level, without using electrical components. It swivels and tilts, and slides into any number of differently sited bulkhead brackets. Available from most chandlers at £23 and supplied by MFM, 39 Hartwood Road, London W12.

Hot air

⑫ Even those who actually enjoy the privations of a tough voyage eventually concede the advantage of a heater on board. A warm, dry crew is more

efficient and safer and the sailing season can be considerably extended.

Older and simpler heaters produced high humidity. A gallon of fuel burnt creates a gallon of water to stream down the bulkheads, adding to an already damp atmosphere. Modern heaters leave their by-products outside, while bringing in fresh, dry and warm air. They are compact and fit easily into unused spaces. Typically an Eberspacher diesel heater draws fuel from the engine supply tank and works with little more than a faint roar. The heat-dryer attachment is a popular item.

SHOPFRONT

water babies are safe on sailing holidays. Helly-Hansen have produced a buoyancy aid with a hinged pad at the back which supports the head and shoulders. When babies are frightened they tend to arch backwards and the head is heavy in comparison with the rest of the body it can be forced under water. The new Navigator Mini Aid ensures that the child floats with nose and mouth clear of the water-line, and turns it on to its back if it falls face down. The Aid costs £18.50 (£1.50 p&p) from Captain O. M. Watts, 45 Albemarle Street, W1 (493 4633).

Softly, softly

⑬ I spent the weekend in the company of the slickest, trimmest, most highly polished assistant I have ever met. It is the

Philips 880 Pocket Memo, just 5in x 2in x 1½in, and it weighs only 5oz. It works like a tape recorder, powered by HP16 three-volt batteries and using a mini 20-minute cassette. It is designed to pick up close sound, however quiet, and eliminate background. I tried it in the car with the radio on and the windows open. Even with me driving down the motorway and through Euston Road underpass, the machine faithfully recorded everything I said. The controls are well designed so the Memo can be used in one hand and the whole machine is small enough to fit in a pocket or handbag. It is available from Office International Group, at Office 2000, 257 Euston Road, NW1 (888 8344), or for local stockists telephone Philips (580 6833). It costs £160.

Beryl Downing

and can also pipe warm air to other places such as a hanging locker.

A basic heater starts at around £300 rated at 1.7kW which will take the chill off. The range goes up to 12kW at Eberspacher (UK) Limited, Brockenhurst, Hampshire. (05902 3626)

Sunpowered breeze

⑭ Solvent is an extractor fan driven entirely by sunlight. It is not something to keep you noticeably cool, but in good daylight it will change the air in a typical boat cabin inside 15 minutes. It has a completely maintenance-free motor and bearings, and with its solar cells to provide the power, it is completely self-contained.

The makers claim it is proof against sea or rainwater, even when placed horizontally. But a "deadlight" can be provided to plug it off in the event of heavy seas. This is a new and promising British product. It will be interesting to see how it stands the test of time. From Solar Ventilation, 248 Weyhill Road, Andover, Hampshire (0264 58822). Price £29.95 direct (inc p&p).

Rotating telly

⑮ The more gentle cruising folk who like to keep their quota of television when the day's sail is over, have a particular problem. A boat at moorings may swing gently and never stay long facing in one direction. So the normal, highly directional type of television antenna won't serve. This mushroom form of design from Mithawk accepts signals from any direction and has an in-built booster amplifier. It works on any supply between 12 and 32 volts dc, and has a special filter to prevent interference from the boat's VHF radio telephone. It's a bit pricey at £57; available from Greenham Marine, Ringwood, Hampshire (04254 79064).

Wet and dry

The Stowaway holdall is a waterproof bag with a difference. It is designed specifically for the yachtsman and endorsed by the Design Centre. There are two non-corrodible, double-acting zips which give a clue to its secret. The designer has recognized the problem of not mixing the wet clothes up with the Y-fronts, so an inner dry-pouch almost as big as the bag has separate access. That way the bag can be completely filled with whatever proportions of wet and dry clothing are left at the end of a trip. Available from IWM, 147 Moorgreen Road, Westend, Southampton, at £14 including postage and a one-year guarantee.

One-way screen

From Penguin Engineering comes a double roller blind, with one opaque blind and one fine screen in the same housing. The screen enables the user to see out, while outsiders cannot see in. The combinations of using either or both permit complete darkness, a gentle shading, or well ventilated privacy. Any size up to one metre wide can be supplied; typically one 600mm x 600mm costs £25.

DRINK

Old chain with a new look

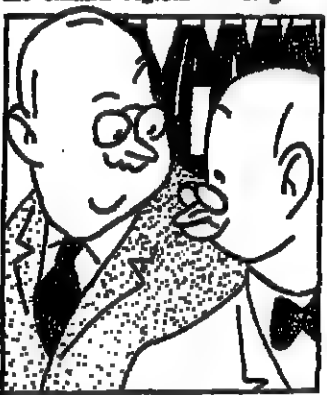
Peter Dominic may not be the latest off-licence chain in the land (that title goes to Victoria Wine who have over 900 branches compared to Dominic's 500 or so). Nor do they sell more bottles of wine than anyone else in the country; that distinction goes to Sainsbury's. But what they can claim is perhaps to have tried the hardest, for over the last year there has been a definite improvement in the quality of wines on their shelves. Having organized a large number of high street tastings during this time, Dominic's have come up with some impressive wins over their competitors.

The International Distillers & Vintners company (now part of the Grand Metropolitan Group) bought the then 21-strong Dominic chain 20 years ago and I have always imagined rather fondly that at some stage there must have been a Mr Dominic. But no, the first Dominic off-licence was opened in Horsham, Sussex in 1939 by Paul Dauthieu, a Scot of French parentage, since the English were bound to find his surname a headache he sensibly chose another name, but kept his initials.

Your local Peter Dominic may not carry the full range of Dominic wines but the way to get the best out of this, or indeed any, off-licence is to get to know the manager, make sure you have a copy of their latest list (Peter Dominic's summer '83 list is just out) and then to badger them into ordering as many of the interesting and unusual wines as possible. For however hard we try to buy in advance there are times, when friends drop by unexpectedly, when resorting to the local off-licence is the only answer.

Two wines that should be in every branch and are a recent addition to the Dominic list are the Festin Vin de Table red and white (£2.25) from Jean Astier in Sorgues. The red is a handsome garnet-purple and its rich, fruity almost luscious taste makes it a good party wine. The golden Festin Blanc is equally rich and fruity and has a pleasant fresh, flowery bouquet, and again its slight sweetness should make it popular with everyone.

Recent Italian wine seems to be getting more rather than less difficult to find these days, and well done, Peter Dominic, for finding a handsome red, the '79 Carmignano Tenuta di Capezzano, a new DOC next door to the chianti region. What gives



his wine, grown on the Conti Bonacossi's fifteenth-century estate once owned by the Medici, considerably more class than its neighbours is the small percentage in its blend of the Cabernet Sauvignon grape that curiously manages to dominate its other Italian varieties. So do try this fruity, oak-influenced, elegant deep purple Carmignano (priced at £3.49), particularly as it is on special offer this month to Dominic's Wine Mine Club members for £3.19. Anyone can join Wine Mine and there is no subscription - just ask for an application form at your local branch.

Alsace wines have nipped up in price noticeably over the last year or two and have worked themselves out of the everyday drinking category. But at the same time the humble Alsace Hugel Pinot Blanc wines have improved tremendously and Dominic's have an excellent '81 Hugel Pinot Blanc with a strong fruity nose and equally strong fruity taste; priced at £3.05 it is an easy wine to knock back on hot days. Considerably more expensive but worth it is Dominic's delicious rich, golden, smoky Hautes Côtes de Nuits Cuvée Bery 78 (£4.89). This fine white burgundy from Geisweiler is full-flavoured enough to take on most rich strong foods - odd perhaps as this '78 is the product of new vineyards. Peter Dominic have wisely decided too that the unlabeled '77 claret vintage was rather unfairly dismissed and they offer several of which the '77 Pibran (£4.85) with its garnet colour and big, rich, full almost chocolaty flavour is a sound buy.

Lots of the other IDV companies' wines are to be found on Dominic's shelves such as Piat Beaujolais, the Morgan Furze and Gilbey Loudane wines, plus Croft port and sherry. Croft celebrated their tercentenary in 1978 and to celebrate the occasion the company has come up with a superb '78 Late Bottled Vintage port, not cheap at £5.85, but one of the best LBVs I have tasted with its luscious rich ripe taste and soft almost almond-like character. Somehow, 44 years on, I think Paul Dauthieu would have approved.

Jane MacQuitty

A slow but steady investment

The rhododendron is a much sought after shrub, and though it is really happy only on lime free soils, it is very often planted in conditions that are far from ideal.

Good quality plants are by no means cheap, so it is an advantage if you are able to increase your stock by propagating your own. Layer the

varieties grown in your own garden and then you can barter them with plants raised in the same way by your friends.

Layering is a slow process. It takes at least 18 months for a layered branch to be ready for severing from its parent plant, but this is nevertheless a reliable method of propagation so long as the ground work has been properly done.

Selection of the branch is the first step, and unless the branch selected can be bent over to reach the ground, there is no chance of success. Areas where branches are bent over should be marked about 9in to 18in from the tip of the branch.

Free - Ron Blom's Bulb Book

64 pages, colourfully illustrated with photographs, it's a handy free from Ron Blom, 36 tennis Gold medal winner at Chelsea, Blom's bulbs are probably the first you see anywhere today. Packed with every possible variety, including many new, make the book ideal for the specialist, or simply people who love to grow beautiful flowers. Write to Ron Blom, Department MS2, Walter Blom & Sons, Commanders Nursery, Laxtedde, Wotton, Hants.

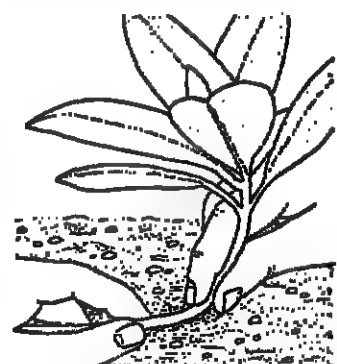
The next step is to prepare the marked areas to take the branch, and this is done by forking over the ground and adding a plentiful supply of peat. The site should be far away enough from the bush to allow decent preparation without damaging the root system of the parent. Ideally the finished site should be in a slight depression as mounding the earth can cause drying out.

Peat will ensure that the soil has a reasonable moisture-holding capacity, and an open soil will encourage the roots, once formed, to take over the soil more quickly. Dry ground should be watered thoroughly so as to fully charge the area with moisture and allow surplus water to drain away before layering. An added advantage is a dressing of bonemeal.

To prepare the shoot, use a sharp knife, hormone rooting compound and a few pieces of wood about the size of half a matchstick. Mark the shoot where it touches the ground on the prepared soil, and then make an incision.

The point on the shoot from which leaves arise is known as

IN THE GARDEN

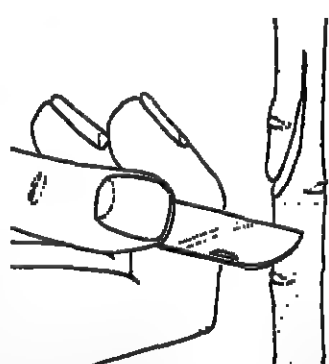


Propagating rhododendrons: Mark the spot where branch touches the ground; make incision below a node with a sharp knife; insert stick and dust with rooting powder; peg down in trench before covering

the node, and the cut should be made from below a node, into the centre of the stem, then upwards finishing about an inch above the node. Make sure the cut goes up the centre of the shoot. Then remove the knife, carefully leaving a tongue which is firmly attached to the stem.

Now one of the small slivers of wood should be placed into this tongue, so that the cut is kept slightly open. A liberal quantity of hormone rooting powder should be applied to the whole of the cut area, which can be slightly wetted.

Bend the branch down and

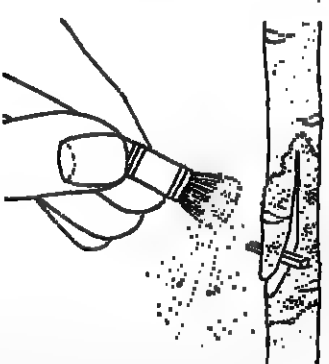


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trowel away the soil in such a way that the branch can be placed into the soil with the whole of the cut area covered. Before covering, make sure the branch is firmly pegged into the ground, because if the elements can rock the shoot about, this will stop the roots forming.

After covering the whole with the already prepared soil, a good watering will give it a good start. Rooting is relatively slow, and as a rule, it should be possible to sever the layer the spring after next.

Ashley Stephenson



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Bend the branch down and

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Pot Plants

Most gardeners make arrangements to have their house plants looked after by a neighbour or friend while they are away on holiday. During this year's hot weather, it has been much more difficult to hold plants than usual. Don't leave plants in a conservatory or close to south or west windows. Place them in a light but cool room where there is some air circulation. Give them a thorough watering just before you leave, and then place the pots on plant saucers which have been filled first level with pebbles and then with water. The bottom of the pot should be just above the level of the water. Plants which can be

plunged into wet peat or bark outside also have a reasonable chance of lasting over the holiday period. It is vital the plunge beds are well watered after the plants have been placed in them. There are a number of capillary bench automatic waterers which are good. The system is for the reservoir to be topped up with water, which is then taken up by capillary action to wet the mat on which the plants are stood.

Hoya

Sometimes better known as the Wax Plant because of its waxy type flowers this is an indoor plant which unlike most plants, is best seen looking from below up into the

plant. They make ideal hanging baskets as the flowers hang almost straight down. Of the two well known forms, *Hoya bella* and *Hoya carnosa*, *carnosa* is the stronger and will tolerate a lower winter temperature. *Bella* needs more shade in the summer. Soilless composts are suitable and *bella* will grow in a smaller pot than *carnosa*. Flowers are sweetly scented, creamy white in colour, and appear from about May to September. So long as the plants are flowering, a weak liquid feed such as Phostrogen every two weeks will keep them healthy. Maintain a high humidity during the summer but keep the plants much drier in the winter. *Carnosa* plants need to be about two years old before they begin to flower.



Basket beauty: Hoya carnosa is best seen from below

REVIEW Paperbacks of the month

Slim legacy of long battles with the here and now

On the cover sits a snag-toothed, myopic old man, balding, hunched, and possessed of an inane grin. His ancient fountain pen is poised over a piece of paper. An open tin of sardines, a bowl of cornflakes and a bottle of Scotch face this dismal figure. Is this illustration meant to depict Amis himself? Were all those recent advertising pictures showing the great man of the Fifties poised in front of a sleek and all-knowing word processor simply the product of a creative director's over-active imagination? You deserve an answer, but frankly I do not have one. The cover is not captioned; it may tell Penguin a few copies at airports, but its links with reality remain obscure.

What we are left with behind this bizarre illustration is as palpable an example of literary ephemera as one is likely to encounter in a living author. Amis may not be fashionable at the moment. The hangover of soft liberalism which permeates the ethics of publishing, if not its marketing, can be seen to that at least. What his collected stories over nearly 20 years do

Collected Short Stories, by Kingsley Amis (Penguin, £1.95)

provide is an erratic marker of the equivocation of a writer bound, by his own interests, to the here and now.

In Amis's case the here and now has changed considerably and, in a sense, this is one of the most interesting aspects of this collection. In 1955, with stories firmly based on the experiences of bored officers in the Signals Corps at the end of the war, he sets the scene for the class dislocation which was to prove the logical predecessor of the excesses of *Lucky Jim*. A few years later we find him playing with science fiction, a subject which appears to have genuinely excited his interest, but is a genre in which his consciously literary antecedents prove an obstacle.

So why do I like this book so much? Perhaps because one feels instinctively drawn to a collection which displays its failures as obviously as its merits. However dubious the basis of some of these stories,

one is always carried along by the pace of his writing. His *Sherlock Holmes* spoof, *The Darkwater Hall Mystery*, may lead nowhere, but it is a delight to be diverted by it for a few minutes. The horror behind *The House on the Headland* is worthy of M. R. James; the "fiction" of *Who or What Was It?* which was originally a radio broadcast, provoked a friend to inquire whether the supernatural events contained therein were really the product of a nasty session of D.T.s.

In the introduction, Amis writes that the volume contains nearly all the short stories he has ever published, apart from *The Sacred Rhino of Uganda*, which entered the world when he was 10. A shame this Amis on anything sacred is not to be missed. It is a slim and motley legacy for a writer now approaching the time when his pension card will fall through the door. But it is substantial enough for the rest of us to bewail the fact that more of his like has not flowed from the same pen.

David Hewson



The term "cold war" is too often an excuse for ailing sloppy and subjective views on East-West relations. Fred Halliday's stimulating attempt to analyse the causes of US-Soviet conflict since 1945 skilfully avoids reducing complicated international problems to a crude allocation of blame in the manner of partisan apologists for the superpowers. Indeed, Mr Halliday approves of neither the United States nor the USSR.

He finds Washington, however, the more at fault for "making the Second Cold War" which, he says, began in 1979 after a decade of détente; these two phases were preceded by the First Cold War (1945-1953) which gave way to a period of "oscillatory antagonism" in which crises alternated with attempts to lessen confrontation. Do Mr Halliday's four phases really clarify trends? The death of Stalin in 1953 was indeed a turning-point, but the later divisions seem to this "cold warrior" to reflect changing western perceptions of the USSR rather than radical shifts in East-West relations or any real reduction in Soviet hostility towards the West.

As attested by his careful references, Mr Halliday is well versed in western sources on

The Making of the Second Cold War, by Fred Halliday (Verso, £4.95)

mistakes in US policy and the shortcomings of the capitalist system, but less conversant with the closed society of the USSR. The reader is told about the "repression in both camps"; yet McCarthyism is surely on a different scale from the persecution of Tioists in eastern Europe, many of whom were executed.

Washington is accused of antagonizing the USSR, which "certainly hardened Soviet resolve in the weeks prior to the decision to send troops to Afghanistan". Mr Halliday sees the deployment of SS-20 missiles as redressing the balance with the West, regretably giving NATO the "ideal pretext" for deploying cruise and Pershing missiles "as an apparent reply to the Soviet action".

Even China is faulted for aligning itself with the West, having "cast Moscow as the militaristic and aggressive power". Mr Halliday claims that the American right rightly promotes the idea of Soviet military superiority to facilitate a new arms boom and argues that Moscow has been forced to

respond because it is surrounded by hostile countries. Neighbouring countries do not agree that the Soviet military build-up is purely defensive. And despite the "right-wing offensive in the USA" - and Britain in the Falklands war showing itself "as vicious an imperialist power as any other" - the one-way flow of emigration from East to West suggests that people would rather live under the evils of capitalism than wait for the radiant future promised.

It would be a pity if the polarization of views on the East-West conflict meant that the less radical reader dismissed this book as more nonsense from the trendy left. Mr Halliday is not alone in reaching the dangerous conclusion that what is needed is an "independent western Europe" - socialist and non-aligned - which would "weaken the ability of the USA to wage a world-wide cold war against the Soviet Union". Perhaps. But disbanding NATO would not, as he suggests, weaken the Soviet grip on eastern Europe. On the contrary, it might just help extend that grip westwards under the guise of making the Second Détente.

Iain Elliot

New 'realism' bites the dust

Granta's phoenix act continues. This is Bill Buford's eighth issue of the resurrected Cambridge magazine and the second to be produced in conjunction with Penguin. The venture is impressive for its energy and for its earnest determination to keep its finger on the pulse of literary life. Buford combines seriousness of approach with marketing flair and, even if the result is somewhat pricey, it will at least ensure that Granta's profile floats some way above the competing literary mags.

But dirty? Realism? The use of either of those words is risky, the use of both is asking for trouble. The genre in question arises from America and seems to focus primarily on the short story. With characteristic confidence Buford contrasts it with the works of Mailer, Bellow, Barth, Gaddis, Fynchon, Updike and Styron and appears to overturn the lot in favour of D.R. But what about Cheever? No mention of the American short story can be completed without incorporating his massive achievement. And, more to the point, the case is not proved by the contents of Granta 8.

The characteristic tone of the school is flat, unseasoned narrative. Each author appears to put some effort into avoiding

Granta Dirty Realism: New writing from America edited by Bill Buford (Penguin, £3.50)

comment. The language is thin, generally unassociative and clearly intended to be returned to its denotive functions, stripped of its more usually twentieth-century accretions.

All too often, however, the mask slips: "When they did find him ('they' meaning people in uniforms)". Here Jayvee Anne Phillips's coy parenthesis betrays her, objectivity reveals itself for what it is, an



Missing author: John Cheever's contribution ignored by Granta

unacknowledged subjectivity and the realism crumbles, before its always victorious enemy - selectivity.

A further give-away is Buford's use of the word "haunting" to define the effects of the tales. Instantly it puts us back on to the old expressive treadmill of fiction, to language as a transparency through which meaning is discerned.

It is a species of staidism, of impatience with the head-clutchings of modernism and a rushing into the arms of that most deadly doctrine - post-modernism. Some are better than others. Raymond Carver and Tobias Wolff seem to claim some higher ground but dirt and realism seem to get the better of the rest.

Outside the school, this edition includes a tortured but efficient enough struggling with conscience over El Salvador by Carolyn Forché. Angela Carter on her father, a dreadful piece of overwrought "new journalism" from Michael Herr and a story by Todd McEwen. It is a robust and educative selection which served its function of getting at least this reader off the fence to shout the odds.

Bryan Appleyard

Shaming the wild frontier

Harry Paget Flashman VC, born 1822, educated Rugby School, officer in the Cherry-pickers, hero of every warhorse and warehouse in the nineteenth century, "special subject" of this year's BBC Mastermind on his way to the glittering prize in back. Thomas Hughes, who fathered him but never fully appreciated the lad's true potential, must be spinning in his grave.

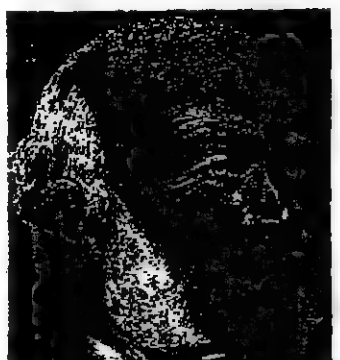
This latest series of revelations from the Flashman Papers covers his experiences as a "Forty-Niner" on the Santa Fe trail as wagon train captain for his favourite brothel keeper as she moves her business, lissom livestock and all, to the lucrative goldfields of the American West. But that's only the start of it... Part Two has him back in the New World 27 years later mingling with the likes of Kit Carson, fighting with Custer at the Little Big Horn: "I ain't being clever," says our anti-hero "but if he'd done what I told him he might have saved most of his command..." Ah, incomparable Flashie, that you should be the one white survivor to tell the tale...

The research has been, as usual, meticulous. The characterization of Flashman flows without a fault as if he has

Flashman and the Redskins by George MacDonald Fraser (Pan £1.95)
Vintage Stuff by Tom Sharpe (Pan £1.75)

swept aside his creator and taken over his own destiny. That one so shamelessly flawed, so brainless and so venal can retain such charm, even when booting "tight as tadpoles" with a snucly Apache chief, says much for the professional skill which lies behind him.

But it's the pace, the colour, the excitement, as much as Flashman himself, which make



Turning in his grave: Thomas Hughes

this, like its predecessors, such entertaining bedtime stuff. Mr G. MacD. F. tells a rattlin' good yarn as Flashie might have put it, and long may he continue.

One person who would not have approved of Flashman is Gerald Gladstone, housemaster at Groxbourne, a mini-minor public school in Shropshire and anti-hero of Tom Sharpe's latest flight of fancy.

Groxbourne's academic reputation is not of the highest, which is why it accepts boys like the literally minded Peregrine Clyde-Browne and employs masters like the monocled Gladstone, a kind of knight errant masqué, to teach them.

Gladstone's weakness for clean-living, stiff upper lip schoolboy adventure yarns, his long-running feud with geography master Mr Styne, and his wistful desire for a wife take him and his favourite pupil to France, aboard his vintage Bentley. Now read on...

The Sharpe-eyed will know what to expect - a gradual descent into ineluctable mayhem as his characters switch over to "self destruct". It's full of scatology, bad taste - you name it, it's there. But *Vintage Stuff* is funny enough to make me laugh out loud.

Henry Stanhope

PREVIEW Theatre

Naked tragedy and dark deeds by an unknown hand

Arden of Feversham, which opens on Monday at The Pit, the Royal Shakespeare Company's second theatre at the Barbican, has a strong claim to be known as the greatest play by that enigmatic author Anon. Dating from 1592, it is also considered to be our earliest domestic tragedy.

The play is based on a real case of the 1550s, a plot by two lovers to murder the woman's husband. *Arden* is played by Christopher Benjamin, Arden's wife, Alice, is played by Jenny Agutter, and her lover, a steward called Mosby, by Robert O'Mahoney. The two villains commissioned to do the foul deed rejoice in the names of Black Will and Shakebag, a sideswipe at Anon's illustrations contemporary, perhaps.

The production, transferring from Stratford-upon-Avon where it was staged last year, is

directed by Terry Hands. On the question of authorship, Hands regards *Arden of Feversham* as a typical example of Elizabethan cooperative writing, with the hand of one man dominant. He is certain that hand was not Shakespeare's, although he admits that there are a couple of speeches reminiscent of Henry VI, which was written at about the same time.

The playwright was "undoubtedly an important writer", says Hands. "But we know of nothing else he wrote and nothing else about him".

The RSC is ever keen to perform the plays of Shakespeare's contemporaries, to compare style and attitudes. Hands sees Shakespeare as an essentially optimistic man, whereas the author of *Arden* is obsessed by morbid sexual psychology.

"It is a morbid play, but it is also a funny black comedy, with marvellous writing. And it is a splendid vehicle for the actors", he says. It is a blood-curdling play, too, in which no fewer than seven persons have motives for disposing of the headowner Arden (not so much a wife as a man who'll do it).

The author described his play as a "naked tragedy", and indeed in an earlier production, Arden stood naked in front of the audience, causing several of them to walk out. Hands's version, be it tragedy or black comedy, should not have that effect.

Christopher Warman

Arden of Feversham is previewing today at The Pit, Barbican, Silk Street, London EC1 (028 8795) at 2pm and 7.30pm. Opens Mon at 7pm. Then Tues-Thurs at 7.30pm; matinee Thurs at 2pm. In repertory.



Wild will: Jenny Agutter (right) and Christopher Benjamin in Arden of Feversham

Critics' choice

AS YOU LIKE IT
Open Air, Regent's Park (06 2451)
Aug 17 at 2.30pm and 7.45pm
In repertory
Not just a pretty production (Victorian maidens and Thomas Hardy rustics) but a sensitive, intelligent one, that, in its natural woodland setting, makes a magic summer evening. Louise Jameson's lovely Rosebelinda holds the high comedy and the pathos in delicate balance. John Cury (Orlando) proves a champion

wrestler and David Williams is a superbly distinguished Jacques.

DAISY PULLS IT OFF
Globe (437 1522)
Mon-Sat at 8pm; matinee Wed at 3pm, Sat at 5pm
Denise Deegan's straight-faced recreation of a 1920s girls' school - all prize poems, hockey matches and Empire-building values - sends the world of Angela Brazil straight up and over the top. Thoroughly unsentimental, nostalgic and wholesome.
FEM
Royal Court (730 7745)
Mon-Sat at 8pm; matinee Sat 4pm

Joint Stock's beautifully disciplined production of Caryl Churchill's incisive, moving, sometimes very funny play about four generations of Fenland women returns after its New York success to provide London with rich, truthful acting and an exceptionally satisfying dramatic experience.

THE FAWN
Cottesloe (923 2252)
August 16-18 at 7.30pm
In repertory
Fleming, witty and thoughtful National Theatre revival of John Marston's interesting Jacobean comedy which combines contemporary satire with some shrewd vignettes of the war between the sexes. Bernard Lloyd's virtuosity and intelligence

as a duke observing in disguise (shades of *Measure for Measure*) holds it all together.

A MAP OF THE WORLD
Lyttelton (928 2252)
Today at 3pm and 7.45pm
In repertory
David Hare debates art versus social action in the form of a duel between an expatriate Indian novelist and a radical English journalist, against the background of a Bombay conference on world poverty. A witty, eloquent and fatality over-ingenious production, which has a fine central partnership between Roshan Seth and Bill Nighy.

SMALL CHANGE
Cottesloe (923 2252)
Aug 19 at 7.30pm. In repertory

Revival of Peter Gill's evocation of childhood in working-class Cardiff, assembled from countless remembered details.

WOZA ALBERT!
Cottesloe (928 2216)
Mon-Fri at 8.30pm, Sat at 5.30pm and 8.30pm
Black South Africa's cry from the heart. Virtuosos in multiple part-doubling and storytelling on a bare stage, Percy Mtwa and Mbongeni Ngema enact the often funny, fruitily heart-breaking consequences of Christ's choice of Botha's Johannesburg for his second coming: adoption as white propagandist figure, arrest as a Communist agitator, and resurrection on the third day with Albert Lutulu and Steve Biko.

THE REAL THING
Strand (936 2650)
Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.30pm; matinee Wed at 2.30pm
Highly uncharacteristic play by Tom Stoppard, starring Roger Rees as a successful playwright who discovers true love at the cost of his marriage.

THE RIVALS
Dorset (928 2252)
Today and Aug 16 at 2pm and 7.15pm, Aug 15 at 7.15.
In repertory
Peter Wood's sparkling revival of Sheridan fulfils the promise of its cast list. Geraldine McEwan as a young but hilariously affected Mrs Malaprop, Sir Michael Hordern gaily and irascible, Patrick Ryecart as a witty hero, and Tim Curry.

A New Way to Pay Old Debts by Philip Messenger. Wed and Fri at 7.30pm.

1626's *Topdog*, directed by Adrian Noble, with Mies Anderson, Emrys James.

WINDSOR: Theatre Royal (95 53888). Lunch Hour by Jean Kerr. Last performances today at 4.45pm and 8pm Long British

premieres run for a Broadway success, a comedy about a marriage counselor and his own extra-marital interests. Kenneth Nelson, Prime Townsend and Carol Cleveland, directed by Hugh Goldie.

Knight of the Long Trousers by Donald Bull. Opens Tue at 8pm. Until Sept 8, Mon-Sat at 8pm; matinee Thurs at 2.30pm, Sat at 4.45pm.

Jack Douglas, Josephine Towson, Nigel Greaves, in a comedy about a newly knighted provincial in London for his ineptitude; directed by Joan Riley.

STRATFORD: Other Place (0788 258823). The Dillan, adapted by Ron Hutchinson from the book by Angus Hearn. Mon and Thurs at 7.30pm.

Barry Kyle directs RSC members, Peggy Mount, Carolyn Pickles, Dickie Arnold and Tom Cook plus 200 local people, in the life story of a Stratford man. Performances begin indoors but continue, weather permitting, at various outdoor locations.

The Time of Your Life by William Somerset Maugham. Tues at 7.30pm. Howard Davies directs William Somerset's 1939 comedy in a well-received production.

THE HOLY BLOOD AND THE HOLY GRAIL

THE SINGLE MOST SHATTERING SECRET OF THE LAST TWO THOUSAND YEARS

OUT NOW IN CORGI PAPERBACK

Out of Town

EXETER: Northcott (0322 54853). *Persephone to Dream* by Ivor Novello. Until Sept 10, Mon-Sat at 8pm; matinee Aug 20, 24, 31, Sept 3, 7, and 10 at 5pm

A major revival of Novello's romantic play with music (including "We'll Gather Lilacs"). Lewis Flander, Rebecca Cairns, Alison Frazier, Meriel Dickinson head the cast, doubling many characters. Directed by Stewart Trotter.

LIVERPOOL: Playhouse (051 700 8353). *I Want by Neil Owen and Adrian Hare*. Until Sept 3, Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 4pm and 8pm

Premiere run for a play, based on their own novel, by the author of *Steaming*, *Poor Cow* and *Up the Junction*, and one of the original 1980s Liverpool poets, Linda Marlowe and Philip Whitechurch, directed by Bill Morrison in a tale of secret love, lasting a lifetime.

SCARBOROUGH: Stephen Joseph Theatre in the Round (0723 70541). *Before Your Very Eyes* by Michael Coveney. Today, Mon-Wed at 7.45pm. In repertory

Alan Ayckbourn directs a comedy-thriller about a missing woman and her son's search for her in a bizarre home for old people.

STRATFORD: Royal Shakespeare (0788 258823). *Henry VIII*. Today at 1.30pm, Tues, Wed and Fri at 7.30pm

Howard Davies directs Richard Griffiths, John Thaw, Germaine Jones, Sarah Borge, in a play last seen at Stratford in 1989.

Julius Caesar. Today at 7.30pm. Peter McEvoy, David Schofield, Joseph O'Connor, Emrys James; directed by Ron Daniels.

Twelfth Night. Thurs at 1.30pm and 7.30pm. Emrys James, John Thaw, Gemma Jones, Zofia

Wentmaker, Richard O'Callaghan; directed by John Caird.

The Comedy of Errors. Mon at 7.30pm. Adrian Noble directs a new production, with Peter McEvoy and Paul Greenwood as the Antipholus twins.

Barry Kyle directs RSC members, Peggy Mount, Carolyn Pickles, Dickie Arnold and Tom Cook plus 200 local people, in the life story of a Stratford man. Performances begin indoors but continue, weather permitting, at various outdoor locations.

The Time of Your Life by William Somerset Maugham. Tues at 7.30pm. Howard Davies directs William Somerset's 1939 comedy in a well-received production.

PREVIEW Galleries

Launched in the tradition of Gainsborough

While the London auction houses sleep through the summer, Christie's are filling their King Street rooms with an exhibition of works by degree students from the seven London state colleges of art. Almost 300 paintings, prints and sculptures come from Camberwell, Chelsea, St Martins and the Slade colleges, the Royal College of Art and the Royal Academy Schools. All are for sale, the prices ranging from £30 to £3,500.

James Christie, who founded the company in 1766, provided exhibition space for contemporary artists. Paintings by Gainsborough and Sir Joshua Reynolds hung amid grand furnishings, chaises, warming-pans and other items to be auctioned. Last year Paul Whitfield, managing director of Christie's, revived the tradition to give students a free launching pad in the West End.

This year's show is bigger: bigger paintings, bigger sculptures and more of both. One of the larger paintings is Trevor Fitzroy Landell's *Structure of Kew*, painted in intense blues and measuring 6ft 6in x 5ft 6in. Mr Landell is graduating from Camberwell in Fine Art Painting and Printing. In September

he goes to Central to begin work on a post-graduate diploma in printing.

His career so far is a remarkable story of determination. As a deaf West Indian orphan born in Brixton, he was sent to Margate School for the Deaf, where he was very unhappy. Things began to look up when, at the age of 15, he began to draw. His social worker in Brixton, also a local painter and teacher, Carol Wyatt, found a room for him in a hostel in Kennington. Here, he would be up at dawn, sketching four old men who shared his room.

With Miss Wyatt's help and tuition, he won a place at Camberwell where his painting *One Tree Hill* was the star of the first-year show. Since *Structure of Kew*, which he painted last year, his work has been on a smaller scale, using the media of tempera, watercolour and print-making.

Louise Nicholson

Christie's inaugural 1983: *The Pick of New Graduate Art* is at Christie's 8 King Street, London SW1 (089 9080) until Aug 26. Mon-Fri 9am-4.45pm, Sun 2-4.45pm. Admission free.

Critics' choice

MANET AT WORK
National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London WC2 (039 3921). Until Oct 8, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-5pm

London's major marking of the Manet centenary, a show bringing together the National Gallery's own Manets and various other works borrowed at home and abroad to illustrate the theme of Manet's working methods. Four important paintings, *Music in the Tuileries Gardens*, *The Waitress*, *The Execution of Maximilian* and *Portrait of Eve Gonzalez*, are studied in detail, with related sketches and prints and background material, and there is a special section on the theme of Manet and war.

ARTISTS OF THE TUDOR COURT
Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 (589 6371). Until Nov 6, Mon-Thurs and Sat 10am-5.15pm, Sun 2.30-5.15pm

It is many years since a major exhibition of classic English portrait miniatures took place in London, and meanwhile there have been many changes of critical emphasis and a lot of new scholarship; also, the history and iconography of the Tudor portrait are one of

V & A director Sir Roy Strong's specialties. So the present show is both timely and a labour of love. The famous figures, such as

Hilliard and Oliver, are present in

force, but the show has its discoveries as well, such as a female miniaturist, Levina Teanring, who would seem to have taught Hilliard. Also at the V & A until Oct 30, the exhibition of Oliver Messel's interior and fabric designs drawn from materials loaned by his nephew Lord Snowdon.

MASQUERADE
Museum of London, London Wall, London EC2 (600 3899). Until Oct 2, Tues-Sat 10am-6pm

Exhibition recreating the look, sound and atmosphere of the eighteenth-century London pleasure-grounds which, for a generation or two, were an obsession with Londoners and indeed with city-dwellers all over Europe. Paintings, graphics, memorabilia and the music that went with them all pay tribute to the vitality of popular entertainment at the time.

ROYAL ACADEMY SUMMER EXHIBITION
Royal Academy of Arts, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1 (734 3471). Until Aug 28, daily 10am-6pm. Admission £2, £1.

More 50p for all. One of the most popular events in the art world; 1,453 exhibits, so there should be plenty of talking points. Last two weeks.

Theatre: Anthony Masters and Irving Wardle; Galleries: John Russell Taylor

ENTERTAINMENTS

What's new
on the
GLC South Bank?GLC South Bank Concert Hall, Belvedere Road, London SE1 8XX.
Tickets: 01-928 3191. Information: 01-928 3092.CREDIT CARDS Diners Club and American Express
new welcome as well as Access and Barclaycard: 01-928 6544.Standby. Schoolchildren, students, unemployed, senior
citizens: 01-633 0932. Only £1.00 Royal Festival Hall, £1.50
Queen Elizabeth Hall. Available one hour before start of performance.The GLC's South Bank
Summer Music

AUGUST 14-28

The brilliant SIMON RATTLE's
third year as Artistic Director

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

Thursday 14 August 8.00 pm
Wetters. 1000.
Robert Simpson speaking about Schubert's Symphonies 1 and 4.
500.Friday 15 August 7.30 pm
City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Saturday 16 August 7.30 pm
Wetters. 1000.
Robert Simpson speaking about Schubert's Symphonies 2 and 3.
500.Sunday 17 August 7.30 pm
City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Monday 18 August 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Tuesday 19 August 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Wednesday 20 August 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Thursday 21 August 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Friday 22 August 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Saturday 23 August 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Sunday 24 August 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Monday 25 August 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Tuesday 26 August 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Wednesday 27 August 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Thursday 28 August 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Friday 29 August 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Saturday 30 August 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Sunday 31 August 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Monday 1 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Tuesday 2 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Wednesday 3 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Thursday 4 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Friday 5 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Saturday 6 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Sunday 7 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Monday 8 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Tuesday 9 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Wednesday 10 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Thursday 11 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Friday 12 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Saturday 13 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Sunday 14 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Monday 15 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Tuesday 16 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Wednesday 17 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Thursday 18 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Friday 19 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Saturday 20 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Sunday 21 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Monday 22 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Tuesday 23 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Wednesday 24 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Thursday 25 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Friday 26 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
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Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Sunday 28 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Monday 29 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Tuesday 30 September 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Wednesday 1 October 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Thursday 2 October 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Friday 3 October 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Saturday 4 October 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Sunday 5 October 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Monday 6 October 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Tuesday 7 October 7.30 pm
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Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.Saturday 18 October 7.30 pm
Laurie R King. Rattle, Hermann (soprano).
Symphony No. 4. Strauss. Songs. Hand. Schubert's Songs. Symphony No. 1.
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50.

The Greater London Council presents
HIP POCKET THEATRE
from Texas combine fast-moving, zany theatre
with magical music and special effects
Queen Elizabeth Hall
13-17 September 1983
Tuesday to Friday at 7.45 pm
Saturday at 3.00 pm and 7.45 pm
Tickets: Front Stalls £4.50, Rear Stalls £3.50
Box Office: Royal Festival Hall, London SE1 8XX
Tel 01-928 3191. Info 01-928 3002.
Credit Cards 01-928 5544.

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL
RAYMOND GUBBAY presents FRIDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 8.00 pm
Smetana...OV. THE BARTERED BRIDE
Vaughan Williams...THE LARK ASCENDING
Rachmaninov...PIANO CONCERTO No. 2
Rimsky-Korsakov...SCHEHERAZADE
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Conductor: YULI TEMERMAN
KIRSTINA ORTIZ, soloist. BARRY GIBSON, soloist.
£2.00, £2.50, £3.00, £3.50, £4.00, £4.50, £5.00, £5.50, £6.00, £6.50, £7.00, £7.50, £8.00, £8.50, £9.00, £9.50, £10.00.
Sponsored by Balfour Beatty

Victor Hochhauser presents
Anglo Korean Centenary Celebration
AUG 29 TO SEPT 3
Cala opening night Aug 29 in the presence of H.R.H. Princess Anne

Korean National Dance Company
Dazzling Spectacle
Brilliant Costumes
Exotic Dancing
Nightly at 7.45. Tickets: £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50
BOOKING NOW OPEN Tel. 01-928 3191
Queen Elizabeth Hall

ROYAL ALBERT HALL
Kensington SW7 2AP
PROMS 83
BBC presents the 89th Season of Henry Wood Promenade Concerts

TONIGHT 7.30
BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Conductor: Sir John Pritchard
Johannes Brahms: Violin Concerto No. 1 in G major, Op. 77
Ludwig van Beethoven: Violin Concerto No. 1 in G major, Op. 64
Soloist: Itzhak Perlman
Tickets: £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50, £8.50, £9.50, £10.50.

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY YOUTH
ORCHESTRA
Conductor: Sir John Pritchard
Johannes Brahms: Violin Concerto No. 1 in G major, Op. 77
Ludwig van Beethoven: Violin Concerto No. 1 in G major, Op. 64
Soloist: Itzhak Perlman
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Soloist: Itzhak Perlman
Tickets: £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50, £8.50, £9.50, £10.50.

RAYMOND GUBBAY PRESENTS
at the BARRICAN
TONIGHT at 8 p.m.
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Conductor: Sir John Pritchard
Mendelssohn: Violin Concerto No. 1 in E minor, Op. 64
Soloist: Itzhak Perlman
Tickets: £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50, £8.50, £9.50, £10.50.

TCHAIKOVSKY
MARCH SLAVE SWAN LAKE SUITE
PIANO CONCERTO No. 1 NUTCRACKER SUITE
OVERTURE '1812' with Cannon & Mortar Effects
LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA
Conductor: Sir John Pritchard
Tickets: £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50, £8.50, £9.50, £10.50.

FRIDAY NEXT 19 AUGUST 8.00 pm
BRANDENBURG CONCERTO No. 3
EINE KLEINE NACHTMUSIK
CONCERTO IN D MINOR for
2 VIOLINS & ORCHESTRA
THE FOUR SEASONS
CITY OF LONDON SYMPHONY
Conductor: Sir John Pritchard
Tickets: £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50, £8.50, £9.50, £10.50.

FRIDAY NEXT 19 AUGUST 8.00 pm
MUSIC FOR THE FIREWORKS
PIANO CONCERTO
Dvorak
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Conductor: Sir John Pritchard
Tickets: £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50, £8.50, £9.50, £10.50.

SUNDAY 21 AUGUST at 7.30 p.m.
MANTOVANI ORCHESTRA
Conductor: Mantovani
Tickets: £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50, £8.50, £9.50, £10.50.

THEATRES
ALBERT HALL
Conductor: Sir John Pritchard
Johannes Brahms: Violin Concerto No. 1 in G major, Op. 77
Ludwig van Beethoven: Violin Concerto No. 1 in G major, Op. 64
Soloist: Itzhak Perlman
Tickets: £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50, £8.50, £9.50, £10.50.

THEATRES
ALBERT HALL
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Ludwig van Beethoven: Violin Concerto No. 1 in G major, Op. 64
Soloist: Itzhak Perlman
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Ludwig van Beethoven: Violin Concerto No. 1 in G major, Op. 64
Soloist: Itzhak Perlman
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Johannes Brahms: Violin Concerto No. 1 in G major, Op. 77
Ludwig van Beethoven: Violin Concerto No. 1 in G major, Op. 64
Soloist: Itzhak Perlman
Tickets: £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Today

A TIMELESS JOURNEY. PAINTINGS BY TRISTRAM HILLIER RA: Whether you regard Tristram Hillier, who died earlier this year, as a surrealist before his time or a surrealist in spite of himself, he was a curiously isolated figure in British art. His meticulously detailed style of painting landscapes and still-lives seems to have developed instantly in his mid-twenties, and he stuck to it for the rest of his life. Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London W1 (734 9052). Until Sept 18, daily 10 am-6 pm.

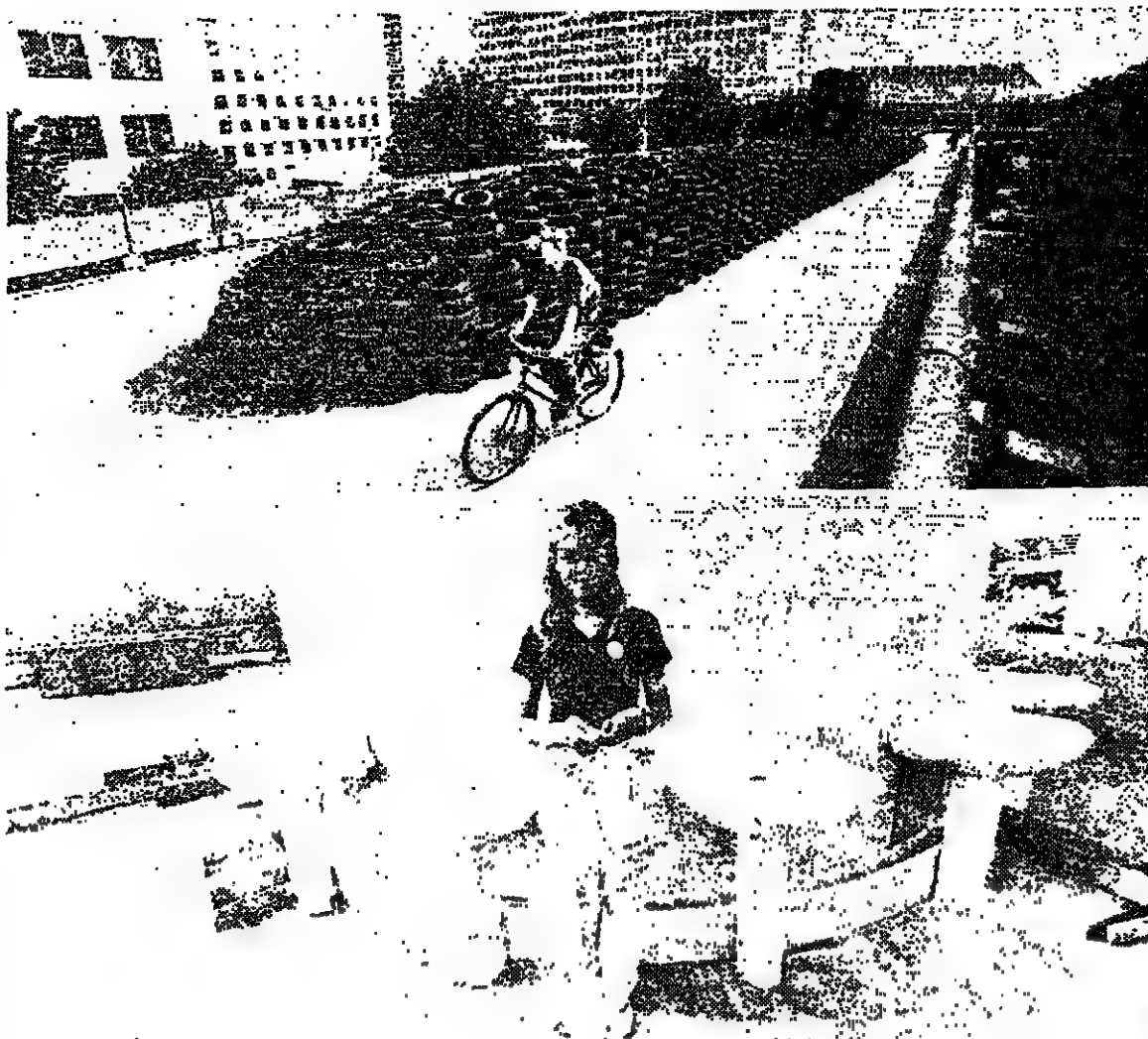
THE SCULPTURE SHOW: It may not be the best, but it is certainly the largest: more works by more living sculptors (50 in all) than have ever been assembled in one show before in Britain. It occupies the whole of the Hayward and Serpentine Galleries, as well as the South Bank Riverside walk and the parkland round the Serpentine. Admission is free. Hayward Gallery, South Bank, London SE1 (828 3144). Until Oct 9. Mon-Thurs 10 am-6 pm, Fri and Sat 10 am-6 pm, Sun noon-6 pm. Serpentine Gallery, Kensington Gardens, London W2 (402 6075). Until Oct 9. Mon-Fri 10 am-6 pm, Sat and Sun 10 am-7 pm.

BRITISH AND COMMONWEALTH STAGE DESIGN: Exhibition, in two parts, in the Lyttelton circle foyer of the National Theatre. The first part (until Sept 8) concentrates on contemporary British design. Three leading designers will talk about their work and lead a tour of the exhibition: Carl Toms (today), Bob Crowley (Aug 20) and John Gunter (Aug 27), each starting at noon. The second part runs from Sept 25 to Nov 5 and features designs from New Zealand, Australia and Canada. South Bank, London SE1 (828 2252). Mon-Sat 10 am-11 pm. Free.

DIETDIGGERS CHAMPIONSHIP: American-style off-road racing comes to Britain for the first time. The vehicles are two, three and four wheelers, powered by Yamaha motorcycle engines from 125cc to 1,000cc turbo, and the track is a high-speed banked circuit with leaps and bumps. Professionals from motor-cycle and car racing will compete with stars from television and cinema. Chessington Zoo, Chessington, Surrey (78 2722). Gates open 10 am. Adults £2, children £1.

A SOUND OF GOONS: A history of *The Goon Show*, presented by Frank Muir (Radio 4, 10.15-11 pm) is an appetite whetter for a series of 10 repeats of vintage shows, with the incomparable team of Spike Milligan, Sir Harry Secombe and the late Peter Sellers. The first, dating from 1956 and called *Personal Narrative*, is on Radio 4 tomorrow, noon-12.30 pm.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING: The big-punching Colin Jones, of Wales, makes another attempt to take the WBC World Welterweight Championship from Milton McCrory of Detroit in a 12-round contest in Las Vegas. In their previous fight in Reno in March, Jones came back to gain a draw after being outgunned in the early rounds. Live coverage on BBC1, from 10.25 pm.



Tyring journey: A cyclist passing Polaris (top left) at the Sculpture Show on South Bank; Sarah Bradpiece with Wash Station (bottom left); and a complement to the trees (right) (see Today)

Tomorrow

BIKES BONANZA: Three hundred ancient and historic motor cycles, sidecars and three-wheeled cycle cars parade through central London today (starting at County Hall, South Bank, SE1 at 10 am), as a curtain raiser for Bike 83, the country's leading motor cycle show, which opens on Friday. The show, which will feature the latest in machines, clothing and accessories, is at Earls Court, Warwick Road, London SW5 (385 1200), until Aug 29. Fri 2-7 pm, thereafter daily 11 am-7 pm (except Aug 29, 11 am-6 pm). Admission £2.50, children £1.50.

AUSTRIAN GRAND PRIX: Elio de Angelis won for Lotus on the Österreichring last year, but apart from Nigel Mansell's fourth place at Silverstone, the Lotus team has made little impact this season. Alain Prost still leads the drivers' world championship, with 49 points ahead of Nelson Piquet's 33, and Prost's Ferrari team just edges out Renault in the manufacturers' table. Live coverage on BBC2, from 4.05 pm; highlights 10-10.30 pm.

Monday

FRENCH WITHOUT TEARS: Terence Rattigan's comedy revived with Christopher Blake, Joanna Hols, Deborah Watling and Jeremy Sinden; directed by Eleanor

Fazan. Arts Theatre, Cambridge (0223 352000). Opens today at 8 pm. Then Mon-Sat at 8 pm; matinee Sat at 4.30 pm until Aug 20.

THE ZIMBABWE TAPES: A drama-documentary by David Cause set in the years of the 1975-80 war in Rhodesia/Zimbabwe. Richard Clark (played by Peter Jeffrey) is a white settler and farmer captured by guerrilla supporters of Robert Mugabe and forced to document the struggles of the guerrillas on tape to counteract the propaganda of his previous broadcasts. Radio 4, 9-9.30 pm.

Tuesday

PORTRAIT OF HIGHGATE CEMETERY: One of London's least-visited and most fantasized sights, Highgate Cemetery is a treasurehouse of picturesque decay and Victorian funerary extravaganzas, with, of course, Marx's grave for political pilgrims. All aspects of the architecture and the atmosphere are covered in John Gay's evocative photographs. Museum of London, London Wall, London EC2 (600 3699). Until Nov 6, Tues-Sat 10 am-6 pm, Sun 2-6 pm.

GEMS OF THE PAST: Fashionable Georgian, Victorian and Edwardian pieces sparkle in a sale of antique and modern jewelry. Included are a Georgian gold and agate ring modelled with heads of age and youth (estimate £150), a Victorian gold

snake necklace (estimate £200), and a pair of Edwardian diamond ear pendants in a flower design (estimate £250). Phillips, Bloomsbury Street, London W1 (828 6502) at 1.30 pm.

YORK EBOR MEETING: Horse racing's third strongest event after Royal Ascot and Goodwood gets under way with the Benson and Hedges Gold Cup (3.10 pm). Shareef Dancer, winner of the Irish Derby, takes on Solford, which won the Eclipse at Sandown, and Gorytus, ridden by Willie Carson on his return from suspension. Tomorrow's highlight is the Toté Ebor handicap, one of the biggest betting races of the year on Thursday there are the William Hill sprint handicap and the Gimcrack Stakes. York Racecourse (0904 20911).

THE KILLING OF MR TOAD: Play with music about Kenneth Grahame's (author of *The Wind in the Willows*) and his unhappy life. By David Gooderson, directed by Peter Watson, with Deborah Norton, Rupert Graves, Hugh Sullivan, John Warner. King's Head, 119 Upper Street, London N1 (226 1918). Previews today, and until Aug 22 at 7.45 pm (dinner from 6.45 pm). Opens Aug 23 at 7.30 pm (dinner from 6.30 pm).

THE MOON IN THE YELLOW RIVER: New production of Denis Johnston's 1931 play, sometimes called an Irish Cherry Orchard, and compared with *Heartbreak House*. Cast includes Ray McAnally, Godfrey Quigley, Desmond

Cave; directed by Tomas MacAnna. Abbey Theatre, Dublin (0001 744505). Previews today and tomorrow at 8 pm; opens Thurs at 8 pm. Then Mon-Sat at 8 pm. Until Sept 10.

Wednesday

NATWEST BANK TROPHY: Middlesex, who have been leading the County Championship and won the Benson and Hedges Cup last month, continue their pursuit of cricket's first "treble" when they take on Somerset in the 60-over semi-final at Lord's. In the other match, Hampshire, the only county yet to appear in a one-day final, play Kent at Canterbury. There is live coverage of both games on BBC1 from 10.25 am. On Channel 4 tonight, Mike Brearley, the former England and Middlesex captain, talks about the psychology of the game and the qualities that make for success (8.30-9 pm).

FOR THOSE IN PERIL: The National Youth Theatre opens its twenty-seventh season with a prize-winning play by Christopher Short about the naval mutiny at Invergordon in 1931. Michael Croft directs. Shaw Theatre, Euston Road, London NW1 (388 1394). Previews today, Thurs, Fri and Sat at 7.30 pm. Opens Aug 22 at 7 pm. Until Aug 27.

GREAT AND SMALL: Glenda Jackson leads in a play by German author Botho Strauss, about a woman's search for

identity in an unsympathetic, amoral and materialistic world. Keith Hack directs a company including Brian Deacon, Barry Stanton, Mark Dignam, Vaudeville (836 9988). Previews today, Thurs and Fri, at 8 pm; Sat at 4.30 pm and 8 pm; Aug 22-24 at 8 pm. Opens Aug 25 at 7 pm.

THE HEART OF THE NATION: A son of lumiere production tracing the role of Whitelash in British history from Henry VIII to Winston Churchill. Written by Rosemary Anne Sisson. It features the voices of (among many others) Peter Barkworth, Sir John Gielgud, Robert Hardy, Penelope Keith, Francesca Scates and Paul Scofield. Horse Guards Parade, London SW1. Nightly at 9 pm to Sept 8, including Sundays and Bank Holiday Monday. Tickets £4.50 and £5.50. Information on 222 9228. Proceeds to Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association.

TOO MUCH, TOO YOUNG: An investigation by Anne Nightingale into girls under 16 who get pregnant and choose to keep their babies. The programme looks at how they cope as mothers, how much they rely on their families and the extent to which fathers face up to their responsibilities. Radio 4, 8.45-9.30 pm.

EUBIE! Musical tribute, from Broadway by way of American television, to Eubie Blake, the black American pianist and composer who died in February a few days after his 100th birthday. He left more than 1,000 songs, many of them written with

his partner, Noble Sissle; they include "Shuffle Along", "Low Down Blues", "In Honeysuckle Time" and "I'm Just Wild About Harry". Channel 4, 9-10.35 pm.

Thursday

LUIS BUNUEL: BBC2's tribute to the great film director (see page 7).

WAR GAMES: America's surprise summer hit arrives in Britain: the artful story of a boy computer wizard who makes contact with a secret computer programmed to play games ranging from chess to global thermonuclear war. Featuring Matthew Broderick, Delaney Coleman, John Wood, John Badham directs. Carl PG. Odeon Leicester Square (930 8111).

THE OUTSIDERS: Francis Coppola's latest film.

CONTEMPORARY BRITISH GLASS: Exhibition of more than 50 pieces of glasswork reflecting the advent of the day-tank furnace which has enabled artists to take their hand glass blowing out of the factory and into the studio. Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, London W8 (803 4535). Mon-Sat 10 am-5.30 pm, Sun 2-5 pm. Free. Until Sept 6, then on tour to Bristol, Swansea and the Broadfield House Glass Museum, near Stroudbridge, Gloucestershire.

CAMERAS AND PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT: A highlight of today's sale is a Sutton panoramic camera made in the early 1880s and significant for its spherical lens filled with water which enabled pictures to be taken with a span of 120 degrees. Also: stereo cards and viewers; folding plate cameras; and the Royal Mail camera used to create postage stamp reproductions of portraits. Some 70 per cent of the lots are in working order. Christie's South Kensington, Brompton Road SW7 (581 2231). 2 pm.

Friday

EDINBURGH MILITARY TATTOO: The annual display of colour and pageantry by the Scottish military massed pipe bands, augmented by two visitors from overseas: the Lochiel marching team from New Zealand and the pipes and drums of the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa. The finale is Lord Rannoch, played by a lone piper on the castle wall. Edinburgh Castle. Booking office: 1 Cockburn Street, Edinburgh (031 225 1188). Fri and Sat at 7.45 and 10.30 pm, Mon-Wed at 9 pm (no part Thurs, except Aug 25 at 9 pm). Tickets £2-£8. Until Sept 10.

KRAKATOA: THE DAY THAT SHOOK THE WORLD: A programme to mark the centenary of the volcanic explosion which destroyed an island between Java and Sumatra and set up a giant tidal wave that killed an estimated 36,000 people. The award-winning wildlife cameraman, Dieter Fling, reports from the area and on the second Krakatoa which could produce a repeat performance. All TV regions, 7.30-8.30 pm.

Week following

Aug 20: Edinburgh Festival opens; FA Charity Shield, Liverpool v Manchester United, Wembley; Three Choirs Festival, Gloucester Cathedral.

Too many in pursuit of too little

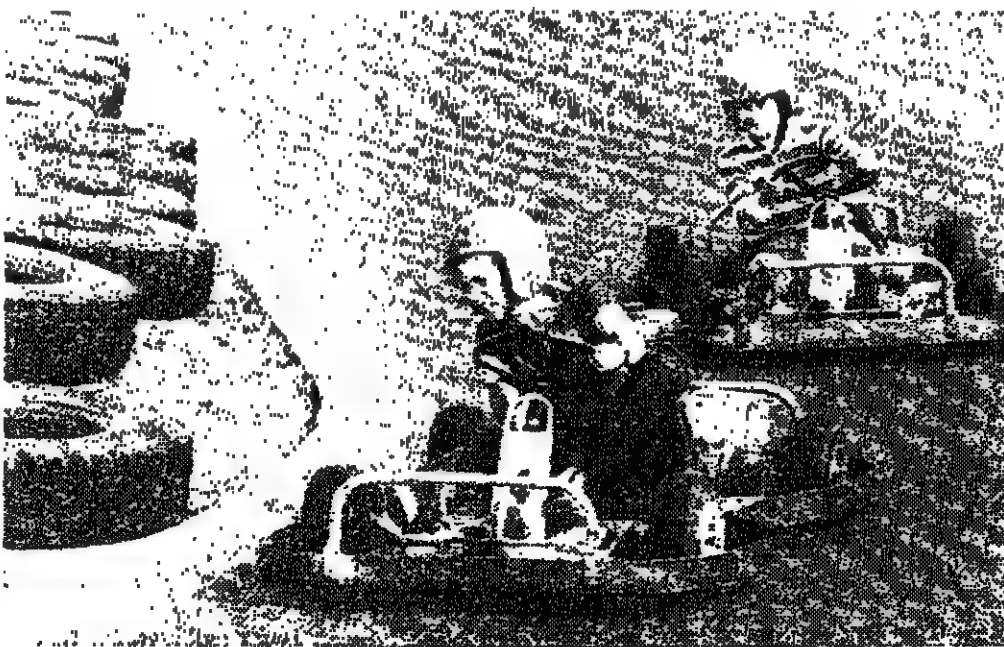
One of the problems of visiting a place as a member of the press is that you are never quite sure to what extent you would enjoy yourself if everyone were not being so nice to you - rather like being a food inspector at a restaurant when the cook knows you're coming. I had no such troubles at Thorpe Park amusement park in Surrey. Having missed a recent press trip, I made my way incognito round as much of the place as I could manage in an afternoon. Thorpe Park carries a slogan: "If you can do everything in one day then you've missed something". I believe it - not least because in the middle of the holidays, you have to spend up to an hour queuing for a single ride. I doubt a whole weekend would be enough. And although most are free once you have paid your admission, numerous drinks, ice creams and hot dogs have to be bought and consumed in order to sustain your strength and patience.

I suppose at the end of the day it is a question of expectation. If you accept that at the height of the season an amusement park will be packed

and you are prepared for a lot of walking and waiting, you can have fun. And indeed that was the view of the children I took.

They did, however, wonder why there could not be more rides, more boats: one even suggested a ticket system whereby you could obtain a place in a queue without having to hang around for a turn, much as is done in some large department stores or at the Passport Office. And I have to say that I considered at least one of the rides a bit dangerous (a kind of spinning wheel on to which the children pile and are thrown off as it gathers momentum). We saw several children crying as the result of bruises and one of mine cut a finger. Stomach-wobbling experiences with risk attached are part of childhood, but I, too, thought this machine verged on the hazardous.

There were some very interesting exhibits, notably the historic aircraft and very well-built models of the Towers Eiffel and Post Office and the Colosseum. But while the questionnaires about nature trails and the farm were well-produced and convincing, Thorpe is no Kew Gardens or



Tiring treat: Thorpe Park is fun if you don't mind the waiting game

London Zoo, and I did not feel there were sufficient intrinsically interesting areas to explore.

And yet the boating lakes looked tranquil, the roller-skating rink full of happy feet and some of the exhibitions clearly of interest to other families. Also the new trip round a kind of Tussaud's haunted house - the Phantom Fantasia - was,

apart from the boring maze through which one got to it, excellent, and I observed many children and adults making the trip many times over. In fact a lot of children - once they had achieved the goal, whether it was a ride on a go-kart or bumper boat - appeared to be enjoying themselves.

There were also facilities (at additional cost) for boardsail-

ing, water skiing, trout fishing and radio-controlled boats which might well have been fun.

Judy Froshaug

Thorpe Park, Staines Road, Chertsey, Surrey (09328 82633) is open daily 10 am-9 pm. Adults, £3.50; children under 14, £2.50, under three free.

OUTINGS

COUNTRY SPORTS AND CRAFTS FAIR

Grounds of Beaulieu Manor, Beaulieu, Hampshire, Aug 14, 10 am-6 pm. Adults £2.20, Children £1.60, free parking. Country sports include clay pigeon shooting, fishing, falconry demonstrations, riding, and gun dog working tests and terrier show (starting at 2 pm). Also over 100 stalls selling and demonstrating different country crafts from fly dressing and thatching to barrel and cask making and saddlery.

PEEBLES AGRICULTURAL SHOW

Hay Lodge Park, Peebles, Aug 13, 8 am-5 pm. Adults £1, Children 20p. Parking £1. Annual show with horses, ponies, donkeys, sheep, goats and a dog show. Also Highland dancing, mounted sports, fancy dress competition, gun dog demonstrations and piped bands.

STEAM OPEN DAYS CENTENARY WEEKEND

Rutland Railway Museum, Cottingham, Oakham, Leicestershire, Aug 13, 14, 11 am-5 pm. Steam enthusiasts are in for a bonanza display of engines in steam this weekend when the museum celebrates 100 years of the Cottingham Mineral Branch Railway.

HIGHGATE CEMETERY (WESTERN SECTION) OPEN DAY Swains Lane, N6, Aug 14, 1 pm-5 pm, free.

Not the ghoulish outing it sounds: one of the most beautiful and monumental resting places in the country.

PETER AND THE WOLF Barbican Hall, EC2 (638 8891), Aug 18, 19, 3 pm. Tickets £3. Richard Stigoe is the narrator in Prokofiev's classic - with John Alley and Ian Wilson on piano. Richard Hickox conducting the City of London Sinfonia.

SHOWS

CAPTAIN PUGWASH The Ice House, Holland Park, London W8, today until Aug 25, 11 am-7 pm daily free.

A look back at the careers of the vain and lazy pirate captain of the Black Pig, his timorous crew and his awful rival Cut Throat Jack. John Ryan has assembled 33 years of the pirate's press cuttings and television appearances and gathered in his other creations: Sir Prancelot, Crocodile, Harris Tweed, the bungling detective from the old Eagle comic, and many more.

UNDER THE HILLS AND FAR AWAY Feltham Green, Hounslow, Aug 18, 19, 2 pm. Tickets 50p (850 3506). The GLC assisted Bubble Theatre Company's musical adventure for 4-7 year olds.

THUNDERBIRDS ARE GO Saturday Kids Club. Screen on the Hill, 203 Haverstock Hill, NW3 (435 3365) Aug 13, 10 am, £1 membership plus £1.25 admission. Full length feature of the television series created by Gerry and Sylvia Anderson with supercaricatured all-American heroes Brann and Scott.

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

CHILDREN'S WEEK

Jackson's Lane Community Centre, Archway Road, Highgate, N6 (841 1884) Aug 18-19, 11 am-8 pm. Games, drama, masks, songs, acrobatics and costume workshops for 11-16 year olds.

SUMMER WORKSHOPS

St George's Theatre, Turnell Park Road, N19 (607 1128), Aug 17 and 24, 10 am-12 noon, tickets £1 (bookable). Activities for 5-12 year olds include acting, painting, stage make-up, backstage skills, puppet making, masks and dance.

THE BASCHET BROTHERS 'AMUSEVOUS' WORKSHOPS

Lakeside Terrace, Barbican EC2, Aug 13, 10.30 am, 3.30 pm; Aug 14, 2 pm, 3 pm; Aug 15, 11.30 am, 2.30 pm; Aug 16-19, 10.30 am, 2 pm, free. Students from the Guildhall School of Music introduce the world of sound sculptures (extraordinary shapes of moulded metal and glass combining the visual arts with music).

Bridge

Dignity of an honourable discard

The discard of an honourable discards the dignity of a traditional ceremony where the game demands its own particular protocol. An everyday example shows the value of this discipline.

Pairs. Game all. Dealer South.

♠ 9732
♥ 108
♦ K1082
♣ A5
73
108
QJ33
W N E S
♠ 64
♥ 10966
♦ QJ55
♣ 55

W N E S
No 17 No 14
No SNT No INT
No No No

West led the ♠ 8. The sight of dummy and the knowledge that South's rebid showed 15-16

TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED. Printed and published by Times Newspapers Limited, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

points immediately enabled West to assess his chances of beating the contract as minimal. Declarer won the trick in hand and cashed four rounds of diamonds. West discarding two spades and East the *Queen of hearts*. Declarer finessed the ♠ Q on which West contributed a wily ♠ 8. Noting the ♠ 8 with a beady eye, declarer tried the effect of the ♠ J. West took the ♠ K and returned a club.

Calculating that the defence had given him nothing and that his little adventure in the club suit had cost a trick, declarer decided that he must recover by playing a heart towards the King. He did not make another trick. One down.

North pretended some astonishment as he inspected the travelling score slip: six 660s, four 630s, one 600. "Bad luck, partner." To some extent North's sarcasm was justified, because even if South felt for the club play he could safely have employed West with the last club to lead up to his ♠ K.

Was there any danger that East's discard of ♠ Q might mislead West? None at all. The rule is that the discard of an

honour will always be the top of a sequence. So East categorically denied holding the ♠ K. If West had not held the ♠ A, could he suppose that East's hearts were headed by the AQ? Yes. But invariably a count of the opposition's points against the background of their bidding will resolve any such ambiguity. On this hand, West knew, as soon as dummy went down, that East could have at most five points.

Teams. North South game. Dealer East.

♠ KQ5
♥ AKQ78
♦ J109
♣ A10987
W N E S
♠ 643
♥ 10967
♦ QJ55
♣ 55

W N E S
No 54 No 37
No No No 54
No No No

West leads the ♠ A. Which card should East play? The King? You might object that I have just explained that it is conven-

tional to discard the top of a sequence. True, but on this occasion we want to transmit an "unconventional" message. We want a diamond ruff, so we "pretend" that we haven't got the ♠ K by discarding the ♠ Q. Now even our muggins of a partner won't play another heart. Because we have played a high heart but don't wish him to continue hearts, it must be a suit preference signal for the higher ranking of the other two suits.

"And if East had a club void instead?" you inquire. Then he should play his lowest heart. On this hand, East's lowest heart is the seven. Would West recognize that as a signal for clubs? A good player most certainly would. And a bad player? There was once an American player whose sharp practice had earned him a dubious reputation. He found himself in precisely this dilemma. This was his solution: he dropped the ♠ 7 on the floor. When his partner asked which card he had played, he answered, "a small one".

Jeremy Flint

Chess

Legal aid advances the British game

Teachers, doctors, clergymen and lawyers are very prominent in chess, both as players and as organizers. Teaching seems particularly notable for great players. Adolf Anderssen, who won the first real international tournament (in London in 1851), was a mathematics teacher, as was the late world champion, Max Euwe. A possible explanation is that teachers can devote their long holidays to playing great chess.

One of the finest players of all time was a doctor, Siegfbert Tarrasch, the *praepceptor Germaniae*, (teacher of Germans) who was also a remarkably good writer on the game. The best examples of chess-playing clerics are to be found in nineteenth century England where they were noted for their skill and also their intensely quarrelsome behaviour. Christian peace and goodwill did not, apparently, extend to the chess-board.

The legal world has perhaps the closest affinity to chess, though this applies more to organizing than playing abilities. The Swedish international

lawyer, Folke Rogard, was certainly the best president that FIDE ever had. David Anderson, also a lawyer, has played a great role in furthering British chess in the international field. Another lawyer to whom British chess owes a great deal is Ralph Hooper, who, though by no means outstanding as a player, had the vision to see and the foresight to plan a great future for British chess.

It was Ralph who in 1969 founded a society called the *Friends of Chess* with the object of restoring Britain to the leading place it occupied among the world's chess nations in the nineteenth century. The other founding members were Hugh Alexander, David Anderson, Sir Richard Clarke, Sir Stuart Milner-Barry and myself.

During the past few years our advance has been almost too rapid; in the last season expenditure considerably exceeded income.

This hampers our efforts to vie with such great chess-playing nations as the Soviet Union, Hungary and Yugoslavia. Anyone who would like to assist

us and British chess can become a patron or a Friend of Chess with a minimum subscription for the first of £30 a year and for the second £12 a year, which should be sent to the Treasurer, Friends of Chess, 19 The Ridings, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey.

It might perhaps be asked: What part have the Friends played in this renaissance of British chess? and in answer, let me point to the fourth place attained by our team at the recent European Team Championship finals at Plovdiv in Bulgaria. This was in competition with nearly all the leading chess nations in the world. We beat Yugoslavia in the last round by 4½-3½ and Jonathan Mestel obtained the best score in the whole competition with six points out of the seven. Everybody in the team had, at some time, assistance from the Friends enabling them to compete in events abroad.

Here is a beautiful attacking game won by Mestel at Plovdiv against a Dutch grandmaster. White: H. Ree. Black: J. Mestel. Q. P. King's Indian Defence.

1 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
2 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
3 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
4 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
5 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
6 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
7 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
8 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
9 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
10 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
11 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
12 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
13 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
14 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
15 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
16 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
17 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
18 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
19 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
20 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
21 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
22 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
23 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
24 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
25 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
26 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
27 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
28 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
29 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
30 ♠-Q4 N-KB3

After 13 N-Np, P-P14, BxP, R-N5 Black has the upper hand.

22 KxR leads to mate after 22 P-B6 ch 23 KxP N-B5 dis ch 24 KxN Q-N4.

If 25 PxN BxR 26 BxP Q-B5 ch with mate to follow.

26 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
27 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
28 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
29 ♠-Q4 N-KB3
30 ♠-Q4 N-KB3

resigns, since 28 R-B5 is met by Q-Q3 ch.

Harry Golombek

Investment and Finance

City Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

City Office
200 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1A 3BS
Telephone 01-837 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 722.1 down 3.8
FT 100 Index 79.10 up 0.20
FT All Share 456.53 up 0.20
Bargains 20,028
Datastream USM Leaders
Index 100.82 up 0.55
New York Dow Jones
Average 1183.13 up 8.74
Tokyo Stock Exchange
Index 8,920.72 up 12.21
Hong Kong Hang Sang
Index 1,037.46 down 3.12
Amsterdam 150.1 down 0.6
Sydney AO Index 681.7
down 1.5
Frankfurt Commerzbank
Index 944.40 up 9.80
Brussels General Index
130.01 up 2.49
Paris CAC Index 131.2 up
Zurich SKA General 294.0
up 0.1

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.4835 up 35pts
Index 85.1 up 0.2
DM 4.0375 down 0.0075
FF 12.1400 down 0.0225
Yen 366.25 up 1.75
Dollar
Index 130.4 down 0.1
DM 2.7220
NEW YORK CLOSE
Sterling \$1.4825
ECU 0.565347
SDRE 0.703928

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rate 9%
Finance houses base rate 10
Discount market loans week
fixed 8%
3 month interbank 9% - 9%
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10% - 10%
3 month DM 5% - 5%
3 month FF 15% - 15%
US rates:
Bank prime rate 11
Fed funds 9%
Treasury long bond 100% -
100%
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling
Export Finance Scheme (V)
Average reference rate for
interest period July 8 to August
2, 1983 inclusive: 9.989 per
cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce)
am \$411.60 pm \$412.45
close \$412.25 \$415 (\$279.25-
279.75)
New York close: \$412.45
Kruggerand (per ounce)
\$279.25 \$279.75 (\$228-288)
Sovereigns (new)
\$87.50 \$88.60 (\$65.75-86.50)
*Excludes VAT

NOTEBOOK

Reuter has been the object of
takeover speculation for years.
Rumours about the papermaker
have enjoyed a new lease of life
recently. Despite its high asset
value and profit prospects, how-
ever, Reuter seems too big and
too expensive easily to digest.
The oil pollution disaster threaten-
ing the South African coast could
be a disaster for fringe re-insurers
as well. At least £50m will have to
be paid on the tanker Castillo de
Belver and that could be more than
these companies can afford.
Higher rates could result.
Prestige, the household gadget
makers, has increased interim
pre-tax profits from £22.35m to
£31.8m. Apart from a 12 per cent
dividend (3p net), it is also paying
an extraordinary dividend of 27.5p
net.

● International Signal & Control
Group's offer for sale of
34.6 million new shares by
tender at a minimum 125p a
share has been oversubscribed.
Details of what applicants get
and the price they will be
charged are expected to be
known on Monday. At the
minimum price, the American
electronic warfare company
would raise £43.5m, more than
it raised when it first came to
the British market about a year
ago.

● Japan has asked the United
States federal government to
stop states from using the
controversial unitary taxation
of companies. The Japanese
embassy in Washington has
written to government depart-
ments and to the office of the
Special Trade Representative.
Britain has already lodged a
similar protest against the
unitary method which, it says,
results in companies being
taxed twice.

● Ford car prices are going up
by an average of 4.9 per cent
from Monday. New prices,
including car tax and VAT,
range from £4,567.72 for the
Escort 1.3 three-door (old price
£4,381.83) to £10,919.12 for the
Granada 2.3 Ghia Automatic
(old price £10,399.16). Ford last
raised its prices by 4 per cent
last January.

● Prince of Wales Hotels has
agreed to buy the Golf Hotel,
Woodhall Spa, Lincolnshire,
from a subsidiary of Epicure
Holdings.

Dollar falls against sterling and Deutschmark

Bank launches £800m tap as hopes grow for US-induced gilts rally

By Peter Wilson-Smith and Mohsin Ali

The Bank of England yesterday announced an £800m tap stock on the back of a firmer tone in the gilt-edged market and on optimism that the latest US money supply figures would be more encouraging than the markets had been expecting earlier this week.

The new tap, 10 per cent Treasury convertible 1986, is £400 payable on tender at a minimum tender price of £99.40. Dealers said that the stock was slightly expensive as a short-dated stock and also out of line with the long end of the market on the basis of the conversion terms.

However, there was speculation in the market that the bank was looking for a rally in the market next week, helped by

the more encouraging news expected from the US. The new tap - with a further £200m reserved for the National Debt Commissioners - has a first conversion date in April 1984 into 10 per cent 2002 stock; on the first conversion date the gross redemption yield is 10.62 per cent.

The gilts market moved ahead yesterday, encouraged by the strength of US bonds; short gilts ended the day with gains of 1/2, and there were rises of 1/2 at the long end of the market.

Ahead of last night's US money supply figures, the markets scaled down earlier estimates for the expected rise in M1 and were also expecting reasonably good M2 and M3 figures.

Dealers suggested that could delay further rises in US interest rates and the dollar had a quieter day after its sharp gains of recent weeks. Against the Deutschmark the dollar fell from DM2.7325 to DM2.7220. It was also slightly weaker against other European currencies, including the French franc. Against the franc, it eased 3 centimes to FR8.19.

Sterling rebounded later in the day after being hit by a big selling order earlier, but it closed mixed. The rise in inflation revealed by the July retail prices figures was fully expected, but the pound eased against the Deutschmark although it firmed 35 points to \$1.4835 against the dollar. Its

trade-weighted value was up 0.2 at 85.1. In the money markets, the Treasury bill rate showed a small increase over the week. Bills were allotted at an average rate of £9.3755 per cent compared with £9.3255 per cent a week ago. In the United States, wholesale prices edged up only one-tenth of 1 per cent in July, the Labour Department announced yesterday. This was a more moderate rise than in June and reflected lower food costs and a slowdown in energy prices.

Wholesale prices, which indicate where consumer prices are heading, declined at a 0.7 per cent annual rate during the first seven months of 1983. Consumer prices have turned in a

similarly good performance during this year. The latest projections by the Reagan Administration are that the consumer price index will advance only 3.1 per cent from the fourth quarter of last year to the final quarter of this year. The Administration considers that the dramatic downturn in inflation is a vindication of its economic policies of curbing taxes and federal government spending. But some of its critics hold that this policy has also led to the highest level of unemployment in the United States since the Second World War.

July's small gains were largely the product of a 0.6 per cent drop in food prices and only 0.2 per cent gain in energy costs.

IMF calls talks on Argentine crisis

By Our Banking Correspondent

The International Monetary Fund has scheduled an emergency board meeting for Monday to review Argentine compliance with its programme, in an attempt to break the log jam over British banks participating in a \$1.5bn (£1bn) commercial bank loan for Argentina.

The British Government has told British banks not to sign the loan until there is firm evidence that discriminatory financial sanctions against British companies in Argentina have been lifted.

Non-discrimination is also an IMF condition and the board will review this issue. Government sources have said unofficially that once the IMF gives the all clear the Government will withdraw its objections to banks signing.

There was strong indications yesterday that Argentina is now allowing British companies to take money out of the country, in line with the agreement from the central bank vice-president, Señor Luis Mey, that all restrictions on lifting profits and dividends had been removed.

Government sources confirmed privately that there was firm evidence of this and that some had already removed money. About 80 companies are involved, but until this week only Lloyds Bank International had been able to take money out of the country.

However, there was no official confirmation of this and

doubts remain whether Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, who has taken a close interest in the matter, will be satisfied even if the IMF gives its approval.

Other restrictions on British companies in Argentina are still in force. These include having an Argentine over-seer and being forbidden to sell assets or property. These restrictions are not a concern of the IMF, which considers them domestic issues.

Whitehall sources said yesterday they understood that once it was clear the IMF was satisfied British companies were now able to remit profits from Argentina, the British Government would also be satisfied.

However government departments could not confirm this. In some quarters doubts were being expressed whether approval from the IMF would be sufficient to make the Government change its mind on allowing British banks to sign the \$1.5bn loan.

It was pointed out that there was no guarantee that Mrs Thatcher would not want further concessions from the Argentines.

The IMF board is being recalled from recess in an unprecedented move to convene Monday's meeting.

● The IMF, which was counting on a \$4m loan from Saudi Arabia to help close a funding gap this year, now expects only about half that amount, monetary sources said in Washington.

Simon bids £22m for Drake

By Philip Robinson

Simon Engineering is bidding £22m in cash and shares for Drake & Scull, the mechanical electrical and instrument group whose profits have surged over the past three years.

Over a similar period, Simon's profits have soared along on a plateau, rising from £19.3m in 1980 to £20.7m by the end of 1982.

Simon is bidding one of its own shares plus 342p cash for every six Drake shares. At Simon's price of 383p last night the offer values Drake shares at 120p each. Yesterday they rose 36 per cent to 115p.

The takeover is agreed with the Drake board, headed by Sir Monty Flanniston, former British Steel chief executive, and directors have promised to



Sir Monty: promised acceptance

accept with their 119,635 shares. Some Drake directors will join the Simon board when the offer goes through.

Those Drake shareholders accepting the offer will keep the interim dividend of 1.25p per

share declared for the year to the end of October. Drake's major institutional shareholders are Electric Investment Trust with 7 per cent and Norwich Union Insurance Group with 5.2 per cent.

The two companies claim they complement each other at home and abroad. As part of Simon, Drake & Scull will be able to undertake larger contracts.

Simon says it has long been its intention to widen its operating base into the industrial and engineering services group. It adds: "The merger with Drake & Scull will bring to Simon an acknowledged leader in the field of mechanical and electrical services, a sector which Simon believes will show growth."

Whittingham agrees bid

By Our Financial Staff

Comben Group, the Bristol-based estate developer, yesterday emerged as one of the mystery suitors for the William Whittingham, the Wolverhampton housebuilding group, with an agreed takeover bid worth £8.1m in cash.

Whittingham announced that it had gone into takeover talks with two substantial companies a week ago after receiving an unwanted tender offer for up to 30 per cent of its shares at 85p a share from Mr Jim Raper's Milbury property group.

Mr Raper's position on Comben's 130p a share bid was unclear last night but it was thought likely that he would be

prepared to take a profit by selling to Comben the 9 per cent stake he built up in Whittingham before launching the tender offer.

Comben's bid is conditional on Whittingham shareholders approving the sale of the company's 80 per cent interest in the film processing business, Colourtrend, to Dixon's Group for £3.2m. This sale was agreed between Whittingham and Dixon's two days ago.

Colourtrend, which trades through offshoots such as Truprint and Flamingo Films, is a cash-rich business with net assets of £383m.

Family sells 52% stake in Ingram

By Our Financial Staff

The reason behind the sharp run-up in the share price of knitwear group Harold Ingram became apparent yesterday when its chairman Mr Harold Ingram, announced that he had sold the family's 52.23 per cent interest in the company.

The buyer is a Liechtenstein company, called Wasson Establishment which paid 65p a share and, after Takeover Panel rulings, is making the same offer to the remaining shareholders.

The largest independent shareholder is The Cornwall Estate, which holds 6.74 per cent. Mr Ingram refused to comment on the sale yesterday.

On the stock market the share price reached 170p before closing at 160p, still 81p up on the day. Over the last three days the share price has trebled.

The offer price at 65p, therefore, is unlikely to receive many acceptances. The main interest is the identity of the people behind Wasson.

Harold Ingram has just returned to profitable trading, after several years of losses.

City Editor's Comment

Message from the signal box

Registration of insurance brokers, implemented in December 1981, gives the public important safeguards when it deals with insurance brokers who have had to provide evidence of their expertise and financial soundness to meet the requirements of the statutory Insurance Brokers Registration Council.

This pronouncement, by Mr Dickie Alexander, contained in the annual report of the British Insurance Brokers Association of which he is chairman, must have a decidedly hollow ring in the ears of Signal Life investors.

Gibraltar-based Signal Life failed a year ago owing investors more than £6.5m. Signal Life bonds were sold in this country by intermediaries, many of whom were Registered Insurance Brokers and members of BIBA, and many of whom failed to point out to their clients the elementary fact that investments in offshore insurance companies would not be covered by the Policyholders Protection Act.

One wonders what "evidence of expertise" these brokers produced before being allowed to register as an insurance broker. Investors in Signal Life's gold bond fund have been fully reimbursed by the fund's trustee, Hongkong and Shanghai Bank which acted with commendable speed in fulfilling its obligations to policyholders. But the gilt bond fund had no trustee - a point on which many investors were misinformed by their insurance broker - and these people have lost everything.

For these unfortunate their only hope of compensation is to successfully sue their broker for negligence. Then, and only then, can the IBRC "grants" scheme come into operation, or the broker's professional indemnity insurance be activated. Until the insurance broking industry gets a round to setting up an effective

compensation fund talk of "important safeguards" is likely to be treated with the derision it deserves.

Freeports' red herring

Freeports may or may not be a useful way to encourage economic growth in the United Kingdom but their case has not been helped by a study published yesterday by the Adam Smith Institute.

Its booklet, published yesterday, discusses the case for and against freeports but the arguments both for and against are undermined by a case study of the freeport which was set up a few years ago in Miami and has subsequently flourished.

The appraisal of the Miami experiment suffered in large part because of the resemblance it bears to the publicity handouts which the Miami authorities are all too eager to thrust into the hands of any who are willing to receive them.

The lesson of Miami, which the Adam Smith Institute ought legitimately to have pointed out, is not that its freeport has been successful, but rather that if the conditions for growth exist then the freeport can act as a focus. In other words, Miami was ripe for growth anyway. It is the place where the developing Latin American economies meet the monies of the Caribbean, and the wealth and power of the United States.

With Washington looking south for the first time, Miami was bound to become more important, and the city is awash with cash.

The same can not be said for Felixstowe, or Prestwick, or the airport at Aberdeen. All can make a strong case in British terms for having freeports status. But we have to decide what will work here, not what has worked in a different climate overseas.

Sturla report qualified

By Jonathan Clare

The much delayed 1981-82 report and accounts from troubled Sturla Holdings have a full page of auditors' qualifications.

The qualifications say that Sturla, a hire purchase and leasing company, is dependent on the continuing support of its banks and big creditors to enable it to continue trading.

Mr William Starkey, the company secretary, conceded that the qualifications were bad but said they were historic and that the 1982-83 accounts, expected in the autumn, would

be much better though still qualified. The shares were suspended at 6p in March. After discussions with the Stock Exchange, the quota could be restored sometime after September's annual meeting.

A quote should be possible now that the board membership and a Spanish property issue have been expanded, according to Mr David Britton, the new chairman.

Mr Robert Knight, the previous chairman, was decisively voted off the board.

Brokers may file accounts

By Our Financial Staff

Stockbrokers and stockjobbers which survive the Stock Exchange changes intact are likely to have to disclose what they earn to the investing public.

As a result of the chain reaction from the abolition of commissions firms may wish to limit their liability to their shareholders.

If they do that, then by law they would have to file complete sets of annual accounts which would include profits and

directors' salaries. They have similar legal obligations as the companies in whose shares they deal.

As partnerships, they are required to file only annual returns, which show the names of directors and shareholders, but give no figures.

Hoare Govett is one of the few brokers currently required to file accounts. Last year's show that the 407 employees earned an aggregate £6.5m in

1982, up from £5.19m the previous year.

The lack of information has given rise to speculated guesses that some senior stockbrokers earn £1m a year. That is considered to be rare, but senior Stock Exchange traders believe about half a dozen of the senior partners earn £500,000 and a further dozen could be on £250,000.

They confirm that £100,000 a year is not uncommon

Lotus back in profit with first-half £109,000

By Jeremy Warner

Lotus, the sports car company recently saved by a combination of Japanese and British financial support, is back in profit and, according to Mr Fred Bushell, its chairman, faces a future of growth and success.

In the first half of this year, the group made pre-tax profits of £109,000 against losses in the same period of 1982 of £289,000. The profit would have been even better but for £148,000 of professional fees paid mainly to Guinness Mahon the merchant bank, and Price Waterhouse, the accountants for helping to restructure the group.

Prospects for the M90 two-seater sports car project, which Lotus directors hope will increase company sales to more than £50m-a-year within five years will be discussed by the newly-constituted board on Monday.

Lotus could decide not to take a direct equity participation in the venture. For it could assemble the cars for a fee from the Japanese carmaker Toyota, which is also involved in the project.

Mr Mike Kimberley, Lotus managing director, said yesterday that 7,500 of the cars could be sold annually. It would take two years to complete the engineering work and another two years to reach peak production.

Group Lotus Car Companies
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pre-tax profits £109,000
(loss £289,000)
Stated earnings 4.41p (loss 4.95p)
Turnover £5.2m (24.4m)
Net interest dividend, None (same)
Share price 52p up 2p.

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While a series of sale and leasebacks would inevitably mean an increase in Government's current expenditure on rentals, the proceeds of the sales would help to meet its short and medium-term revenue shortfalls.

Mr Osborne said the Government's concern about the long-term upward trend in public spending - first highlighted in the leaked Think Tank study last autumn - would force it to consider more radical options

Radical plan for £334bn Government assets

Leaseback 'cure' for PSBR

By Jonathan Davis
Financial Correspondent

The Government's well-documented long-term public spending problems could be solved by selling only a portion of the "incalculable" amounts of land and property owned by the public sector, claims a City economist.

Publicly owned land and buildings were valued at £270,000m at the last official count, while machinery, vehicles and plant boosted total public sector assets to £334,000m - equivalent to 43 per cent of the total capital stock in the economy.

Mr Michael Osborne, senior economist at stockbroker Grieson Grant, believes that the Government could meet its public sector borrowing require-

ment difficulties by embarking on a string of sales and leasebacks of its buildings and land.

"Given the current yield on commercial property presumably a number of property companies would find the sale and leaseback of public sector buildings a viable proposition," he said. For illustrative purposes, he points out that £270,000m would finance a

Public Sector Capital Stock at Current Replacement Cost

	£bn
Total Public Sector Assets	334.0
Central Government	45.7
Local Government	188.6
Public Corporations	134.5

PSBR of £10,000m a year until 2010. The capital stock in the public sector dwarfs not only the sums in share sale issues such as BP and Britoil, but also comfortably exceeds the value of the Government's share of the north Sea's oil reserves.

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MERCURY MONEY MARKET TRUST LIMITED
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 Shareholders of Mercury Money Market Trust Limited have approved resolutions enabling the Company to issue different classes of shares, in each of the currencies in the box below:

The Company has an authorised share capital of £100,100 of which £27,400 was in issue on 3rd August, 1983. The Participating Shares of the Company are listed on The Stock Exchange.
 The purpose of the Company is to allow both companies and individuals investing a minimum of £1,000 to obtain a return close to that available in the short-term wholesale money market for the relevant currency.
 The Sterling Participating Shares of the Company have appreciated (with dividends reinvested) by 84.4% since September 1978 when they were first issued, giving an annualised rate of return of 13.36%, and by 10.7% in the last year.

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Compensation

FAMILY MONEY edited by Lorna Bourke

Insurance

Banking
Customers
abandon
Big Four

High bank charges are driving personal account customers away from the big four banks, into the arms of Co-operative Bank, Yorkshire Bank and others offering free banking.

A survey by National Opinion Polls shows that Co-operative Bank is gaining customers at the expense of other banks. When it comes to switching accounts, Co-operative Bank is opening two-and-a-half times more new accounts than it loses, while the big four banks are all losing more customers than they are gaining.

Both Co-operative Bank and Yorkshire Bank are acquiring new customers from a relatively low base line with 602,000 and 663,000 customers respectively compared with NatWest and Barclays, for example, which have more than five million customers each.

Co-operative is, however, in no doubt that free banking for customers, who keep their account in credit, is a big attraction. "When it comes to banking as with most things, people are looking for good service coupled with value for money," said Mr. Terry Thomas, general manager of Co-operative Bank.

The NOP report is based on 33,000 interviews, and highlights the fact that fewer Co-operative Bank customers pay bank charges. The figures indicate that only 23 per cent of Co-operative customers paid bank charges during the past 12 months while 35 per cent of all bank customers recalled being charged.

Yorkshire Bank also believes that its success in attracting customers is linked to low bank charges. New customers are being signed up at the rate of 17,000 a month, around 5,000 a month as customers leaving the bank, mainly as a result of moving house.

Lorna Bourke

New ceiling
on CTT

Regulations introduced in 1981 to allow wills to be used to account for Capital Transfer Tax on estates valued at no more than £25,000. The aim was to simplify the administration of wills and estates when a person died.

New regulations came into force on September 1, raising the ceiling for "exceptions" from £25,000 to £40,000 in England, Wales and Scotland.

From then, an account need not be delivered for CTT purposes of any person who died on or after April 1, 1983, where the total gross value of the estate for tax purposes does not exceed £40,000; the estate comprises only property which has passed under the deceased's will or intestacy, or by nomination, or beneficially by survivorship; not more than the higher of 10 per cent of the total gross value or £2,000 (formerly £1,000) consists of property situated outside the United Kingdom; and the deceased died domiciled in the United Kingdom and had made no lifetime gifts chargeable to CTT.

New SAYE option

A new issue of Save As You Earn linked to share option schemes "SAYE Shares Option Issue Series B" will be available from November 1 to replace the existing fourth issue SAYE and will be available only to employees of companies operating approved share option schemes.

Under the terms of the contract, the employee saves a fixed amount from £10 to £50 a month over five years. After that, the 50 contributions are repayable with a bonus of 8.3 per cent a year free of tax.

Alternatively, the original savings may be left invested and repaid at the end of seven years with a bonus of 28 monthly contributions, equivalent to an overall return of 8.6 per cent a year.

The interest rate for uncompleted contracts will be 6 per cent a year tax free.

Lawyers for hire

Visitors to Turkey who become involved in a car accident should be warned that even if they are obviously the victim, the authorities tend to jail foreigners on the basis that if the foreign vehicle had not been there, the accident would not have happened.

Legal insurer DAS use this as an

example when its legal fees policy would come into force. "One of the advantages for the holidaymaker with a DAS policy in Europe is the European connection. DAS has 30 claims offices in 11 countries in Europe and appointed lawyers throughout Europe and the countries bordering the Mediterranean". Cover from DAS legal expenses insurance in this type of situation would be provided under its Family Legal Protection Policy.

The cost is £20 for motor cover only; £50 a year for general and consumer only, but with a 20 per cent reduction if you take both parts.

Executives lose

Executives are hardly better off this year than last, according to a survey by Employment Conditions Abroad.

Meanwhile, American salaries have risen much faster than inflation taking US executives into second place in the rankings in terms of purchasing power, compared with last year.

Other rankings have remained virtually unchanged with Britain near the bottom of the league in terms of purchasing power, above only Greece, the Irish Republic, Denmark and Sweden.

In gross terms the British executive has lost out by about 10 per cent in the past year making him bottom of the gross pay league.

For the self-employed

Pension premiums are the most tax-efficient way of saving and reducing current income tax liability of the self-employed.

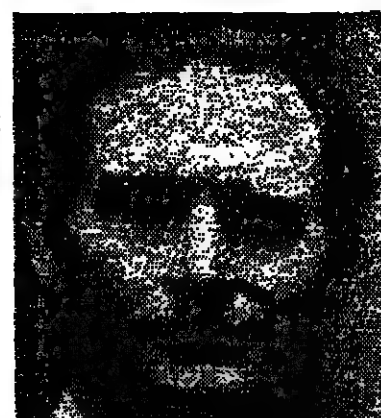
Latest edition of *Self-Employed Pensions* from Financial Times Business Publishing gives details of 128 pension plans including with-profits, unit-linked and deposit administration, and lists charges, investment links, premium levels, pension options, death benefits, past and estimated performance, and most important, loanbacks.

The loanback facility means that pension contributions are not locked up until retirement age.

Copies are available from *Financial Times Business Publishing*, Graystone Place, Fetter Lane, London EC4A 3DF, price £14 including post and packing.

Midland offer

Midland is the latest of the banks to launch its student package, offering free banking facilities in credit or overdraft, cheque cards, AutoBank cards and "no fuss" overdrafts. Students also get a free International Student Identity Card (ISIC) offering one-third or more off the cost of most National Express coach journeys, together with special discounts at 18,000 shops and a £1 voucher for HMV record shops.



Mr Peter Edwards: his Premier Trust Brokers is performing well

Premier second

The unit trust advisers Premier Unit Trust Brokers has turned in an impressive performance in the latest survey by *Planned Savings* magazine. It has come second in both the capital appreciation and income portfolio monitoring survey, turning an original £10,000 investment in January into a portfolio now worth £16,277 on the

capital appreciation plan and £14,864 on the income portfolio.

Brickell-based Premier is a member of The Times/Money Programme Unit Trust Competition panel.

Charity contest

Charity accounts are still considered to be the Cinderella of financial reporting, with a lack of general agreement about what is acceptable if their auditors are to issue an unqualified report.

Accountancy, the journal of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, the Voluntary Movement Group and the Charities Aid Foundation are jointly sponsoring a competition for the best annual report in an attempt to improve charitable reporting and accountability.

The prize is a cheque for £1,000 to be given to the winning charity on November 17 together with a wall plaque as a memento of the competition. Entry forms are available from Miss Gillian Woolley, Belden Barron Smith Ltd, 34 John Adam St, London WC2N 8HW. The closing date is September 15.

Insurers gain

Large scale switching from straight repayment home-loans to endowment.

Linked mortgages has produced a boom in business for the insurance companies. New premiums in the second quarter of 1983 showed a 76 per cent rise over the same period last year to £245m.

The switch was precipitated by the introduction of Miras, and because of the way the societies chose to operate the new net repayment system repayment loans became less attractive than those linked to an insurance policy.

Golden facility

Grindlays Bank has teamed with American Express to provide a Gold Card for certain of its selected customers.

Customers will have access to an unsecured overdraft facility of at least £7,500 at a favourable interest rate of not more than 2.5 per cent over the bank's base rate and emergency facilities to draw cash and travellers' cheques up to £1,000.

Other services include the facility to draw cash and travellers' cheques up to £1,000 at American Express travel offices and automatic travel accident insurance cover for £150,000 if travel tickets are bought with the Gold Card.

Insurance

Play safe: keep the company's
key operator under cover

The death or injury of a key executive can be just as devastating to a company as a fire or major loss of orders. But while companies scrupulously insure their executive's desk, only around 5 per cent bother to insure the top men themselves.

Statistically, a business can expect to be damaged by fire once every 275 years. But contrast a male over 45 has a one-in-four chance of dying before 65. No company would dream of operating without fire cover, but all too many gamble with their human resources.

This narrow-mindedness can be disastrous, and the smaller the company, or partnership, the harder the loss of its driving force is going to hit.

With a well of companies starting up. This is an area that should not be ignored.

Take a four-man computer software company. Staff consists of two boffins, a salesman and financial director. At first all goes well, the product sells, new ideas are in the pipeline and cash in the bank.

Suddenly, the salesman dies. Belatedly, the importance of his key role sinks in but the other partners have no sales leads or knowledge of selling and the company slides down the well-worn slope to receivership.

Key-man insurance cover on each of the partners would have ensured a ready income until a replacement was appointed. Say the salesman had been 40 years old, the company could have bought £200,000 worth of cover for a premium of around £64 a month.

Though a neglected area of insurance, a wide range of life policies is available from Hambros, Hill Samuel, Commercial Union, Phoenix, Sun Life and the Prudential among others. NatWest Insurance in Bristol provides a useful brokerage and information service.

But before investing in cover, a word of warning. Keyman policies are meant for genuine

employees and not for majority shareholders or husband and wife partners in a small enterprise. If the taxman suspects the insured holds a personal stake in the business he is liable to hit hard with capital transfer or income tax in the event of a claim.

Family members of a firm are much better off with an ordinary life assurance policy of

buying a death-in-service clause for their pension scheme.

First step in arranging key man cover is estimating the worth of your executive. A benchmark is 10 times the annual salary. But income is not necessarily an accurate pointer. John Housden, of Hill Samuel, recalls one company desperately trying to prevent an underpaid designer finding out the vast sums at which he was valued.

Mr Housden provides a more accurate calculation. If, for example, your high-flyer earns £20,000, the company has a salary bill of £1.5m and annual profits of £4m and five-year cover is required the sum to be insured would be calculated as follows:

1,500,000 x 4,000,000 ÷ 5 = £267,000

When choosing a policy it is worth looking at unit-linked whole life schemes which have only recently been introduced in this market and are in strong demand.

KEYMAN LIFE INSURANCE

Monthly premiums from Hill Samuel Unit Linked Life Policy

£30,000 £50,000 £100,000

Age cover cover cover

25 10.00 10.00 16.03

40 10.00 15.16 30.31

50 27.18 45.29 90.59

60 88.24 147.06 294.12

Cover is a single one-off payment. The value of the cover rises in direct proportion to the premium paid. For a man aged 50 paying £27.18 premium for £30,000 cover, £24.38 buys him £50,000 cover.

1,500,000 x 4,000,000 ÷ 5 = £267,000

When choosing a policy it is worth looking at unit-linked whole life schemes which have only recently been introduced in this market and are in strong demand.

FREE PRIZE DRAW WIN £1000

WABURG INV MAN JERSEY LTD, 31-41 Broad St, St. Helier, Jersey, JF1 1LH

Memory Money Market Trust 25% 100

UNITED STATES TRUST 100% 100

UNITED STATES TRUST 100% 100

UNITED STATES TRUST 100% 100

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How to turn £500 into £2,150
on the Stock Market in just six weeks

Early every Thursday morning a small number of extremely well informed investors quickly snap up whatever is available of certain shares.

They act with speed and total confidence. Within days (sometimes even hours) they have reaped huge profits.

On 22nd December 1982 against the advice of many experienced brokers, these investors bought

Samson Exploration at 12p.

On 2nd February 1983 they sold their shares for 52p each.

If you had invested £500 at the same time you would have made £2,150 profit in just 42 days.

This is by no means the best example of their investment successes.

The secret of investment success

The only way to make a killing on the Stock Market is to have reliable advice and the ability to move fast, before the world gets round and prices rise.

Every Wednesday evening Stock Market Confidential is posted first class to all our subscribers. In it we make comprehensive buying and selling recommendations, offer sound investment analysis and, most important of all, suggest three 'hot tips' for the week.

If you haven't acted on our 'hot tips' by Thursday lunchtime you've missed the boat - other SMC subscribers will have already pushed prices up.

What to buy and when to sell

If you look at the SMC Growth Record for 82/3 shown you'll notice that we aren't shy to include all our losses. This is because what we have been doing is to suggest three 'hot tips' for the week.

One reason for this success has been that we not only tell you what to buy - but also when to sell.

In fact the average holding period is only thirteen weeks which means you can maximise profits and minimise losses.

Our subscribers can boast some of the healthiest portfolios anywhere with fast in and out profits, and quick capital gains.

Malcolm Craig Editor-in-Chief

Why you can act with such confidence

The Editor of Stock Market Confidential is Malcolm Craig, if you're a major investor or a professional stockbroker you're likely to know him personally.

Otherwise you may have read him in the financial press, or one of his highly respected investment books.

What you probably didn't know is that each week he chairs a private meeting of the SMC Board of Advisors. Together these financial specialists pool information, validate sources, and discuss the latest City whispers. At the end of the meeting they have chosen the SMC 'Tip of the week' and three other of the hottest tips.

We guarantee that none of these tips will be leaked by the Editorial Board, or published, except in SMC.

Which means you can act with total confidence each Thursday morning.

SMC Growth Record 82/3

Top Performing Share Security 'Tip' Systems: +840%

Average Growth For 'Hot Tip' (including losses): +34.3%

Average holding period: 13.4 weeks

SMC Weekly Contents:

* Three 'Hot Tip' - act by Thursday

* Buytime before other subscribers

* USM Tip of the Week - aimed at fast in and out profits.

* Comprehensive investment analysis including gold, building stocks and gilts.

* Valuable inside information for long term capital growth.

SMC is a four-page weekly news sheet available by private subscription.

FREE! £1000 PRIZE DRAW

Everyone is welcome to enter our Free Prize Draw. All you have to do is tick the appropriate box on the application form below and return it to us by September 30th 1983.

On Wednesday October 26th, if you're the winner, you'll receive £800 to spend or invest as you please.

We'll suggest you invest it evenly across our 'Hot Tip' for that week. Because if you do, and

your £800 of shares aren't worth £1000 by November 4th, we'll make up the difference in cash. That's right, we're so confident that our advice is sound we believe that £800 will be worth £1000 in just four weeks.

Everyone is welcome to enter the FREE Prize Draw. No purchase is necessary.

FREE BOOK FOR FIRST-TIME SUBSCRIBERS

SMC was originally published to help only experienced investors.

But it's of equal value to first-timers. If you have never invested in the Stock Market before we'll send you a free book: "How the Stock Exchange Works", to help you squeeze the maximum profit from SMC.

HOT TIP HOTLINE

In case you're away from home on a Thursday morning, or the first post is delayed, we supply you with a private 'Hot Tip' Hotline phone number, so that you can hear a summary of that week's SMC.

FREE! SIX TRIAL ISSUES

Return the completed banker's order below and we'll mail you the next six issues of SMC absolutely free.

So you can profit from our expert's invaluable advice for six whole weeks at no cost to yourself.

If you're not convinced that the vital information which SMC contains is worth £144 a year just write to your bank and cancel your application order before the date shown.

SAVE £72! YEAR ONE AT HALF-PRICE

In addition to six free issues you can also receive your first year's subscription to SMC at half price if you order before August 23rd.

So if it cost you just £72.00 for year one. Order by August 23rd 1983.

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It will cost you nothing to discover how profitable the information in SMC can be. Order your six free issues and enter the free prize draw today.

Please enter me in the £1000 Free Prize Draw

Please send me FREE book "How the Stock Exchange Works" (cheques only)

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Banker's Order: Please pay to the order of Stock Market Confidential, £72.00 to 57/61 Mortimer Street, London W1N 7TD.

months from the date shown and thereafter for the sum of £144.00 each year on the anniversary of the date shown being my membership to Stock Market Confidential and debit my account accordingly until countermanded by me in writing.

TJS

AN OFFER FROM M&G
UNIT TRUSTS

Unit trusts provide the best way for most people to share in the rewards and risks of the stock market. They are run by full-time professionals and the risks are minimised by investing in a wide spread of shares, held by a trustee.

Unit trusts are a long-term investment and not suitable for money you may need at short notice. The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

M&G (who founded unit trusts in Britain) are involved in the management of funds totalling some £1,500 million. The six Funds below may have particular appeal in the present investment climate.

AMERICAN SMALLER COMPANIES FUND A new Fund with the same objective of long-term capital growth through investing in companies which are small today but have the potential for growing into the successful medium of tomorrow. Trustee: Lloyd Bank Plc. Distribution: 28th August and 26th September for new investors (20th February 1984).

FAMILY MONEY

Insurance-linked savings

Attractive return from building society schemes

The 26th issue of National Savings Certificates will be available from Monday. Paying 8.25 per cent tax-free over a five year term, they are an attractive proposition for anyone who pays higher rates of tax. Basic rate taxpayers can get 8.25 per cent net of tax on a building society "extra" interest account so there is no point at the moment in locking up savings for five years.

But there is an attractive alternative which is likely to show returns of more than 13 per cent over a four-year term - building society insurance-linked regular savings plans.

After the rise in building society rates last month, these schemes are showing estimated returns as high as 13.2 per cent. Though they are designed as regular savings schemes, they can be just useful for anyone with a lump sum to invest.

Annual or monthly premiums are paid on the policy and up to 96 per cent of the gross premiums goes straight into a building society account.

The investor is entitled to 15 per cent life assurance premium relief so that for £85 the saver gets £96 invested in a building society. The only condition is that the policy is not surrendered within four years. Earlier encashment will trigger "claw-back" of the life assurance relief which provides higher return.

Some building societies will accept a lump-sum investment, then use it to pay annual or monthly premiums on an insurance-linked scheme. Alternatively, a lump sum can buy a four-year annuity on which the payments provide the premiums on the life policy.

Best returns are achieved when the policy is cashed in after four years. Basic rate taxpayers will have no further liability but there is a liability to pay higher rates of tax and the investment income surcharge.

This is calculated on the difference between the gross premiums paid and the actual surrender value - that is, the

profit made. Basic rate tax has already been accounted for by the building society so a 45 per cent taxpayer will have a 15 per cent liability on the profits. But even taking this into account, a top rate taxpayer should still see a yield of more than 11 per cent.

The appeal of these schemes lies in the fact that the only risk one faces is that building society interest rates might decline. But if this happens, other interest rates will fall as well.

Royal Insurance offers contracts linked to a number of societies, but it is the policies linked to the smaller ones which generally show the best returns.

The table shows the cash value and yield on an investment in the Royal/Marsden Building Society scheme - one of the best at the moment. Others which regularly turn in a good performance are the Eagle Star/Bradford and Ringley scheme, and two Sun Life plans in conjunction with the City of London and Scottish building societies.

Schemes offering the lump-sum route (either building society deposit or temporary annuity) include Eagle Star, Guardian Royal Exchange, and Sentinel. In addition, the Homeowners' Friendly Society offers this facility. But with a friendly society, it is not possible to surrender the plan until the full 10-year term is up.

Invest £750 or more in the TSB Investment Managers' Competition choice before 2nd September 1983 and we will add another 1% to your unitholding, at no additional cost to you. Make that £7,500 or more and we'll make it an extra 2%.

FREE EXTRA UNITS FOR EARLY INVESTORS

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Currencies

Dollar rise shows investors' peril

Lifting exchange controls may have liberated the British investor by extending the choice of locations and investment vehicles, but recent apprehension about the course of American interest rates and the dollar underscores how perilous is the world in which the investor has been cast adrift.

For the fact of the matter is that no investment should be made today, at home or abroad, without taking currency fluctuations into account. The huge and volatile flows of foreign exchange round the world - estimated at \$100,000m a day - are virtually uncontrollable under existing arrangements. In so far as the currency

system has a focus these days, all eyes are on the dollar.

Crudely perceived, the mechanism works thus: higher American interest rates will enhance the attractiveness of investment in cash in dollars, if not in other instruments; other currencies correspondingly offer lower returns; eventually the markets and other authorities take steps to restore the competitive appeal of their currencies.

Recent figures have sometimes been dramatic. At various times the dollar has been worth DM2.6875, its strongest for a decade, has traded for FF8.0940, the highest ever, and touched £1.4720.

But therein lies the complication for British investors. While other currencies have depreciated against the dollar - the Japanese yen included - sterling has been dragged up by the dollar against these other currencies. The pound's trade-weighted index, which measures its overall competitiveness against the main trading partners, is higher than at the beginning of the year.

On the one hand, therefore, dollar interest rates look attractive to sterling investors. Interest rates of 9.75 per cent on seven-day money and 10.25 per cent on three-month deposits enjoy an edge over their British counterparts.

On the other hand, corrected for exchange rate movements, British investors would have done better at home over the last three months, earning almost 10 per cent on three-month money against less than half as much for the dollar.

Only a sharp depreciation of sterling against the dollar, or a widening of the interest rate differential, or a combination of the two, will alter the relationship in favour of sterling holders. While foreigners retain their faith in oil prices and British government policy there seems little chance of that happening. It might be safer to stay at home.

Michael Prest

Compensation
Cameraman
waiting
for £12m
verdict

A commercial photographer has lodged a £12m claim against the Thames Water Authority which could force a long-awaited High Court decision on the value which should be attached to lost or destroyed photographic transparencies.

The problem of valuing transparencies which go astray has never been properly resolved by photographers. The recommendation of the British Association of Picture Libraries and the Association of Fashion, Advertising and Editorial Photographers is that photographers should be reimbursed for losses on a scale of £250 to £400 for each transparency. But often these charges are disputed, with photographers and picture libraries being persuaded to take much less unless they are prepared to go to court.

This could all change if the case of Mr John Adams, a 50-year-old photographer, goes to the High Court. The claim relates to damage when Mr Adams' studio at Rimbod Place, London, was flooded, destroying nearly 490,000 negatives.

Mr Adams claims that 20 years' work was destroyed by the flood, which, he says, was caused when workmen called to investigate a damp patch in his studio accidentally burst a main water pipe.

"Eight or ten people were bailing out the water at one stage," he says. "It was at least one hour before the flood was stopped and water was still



Adams bewildered at the loss of life's work

pouring through the basement walls two or three hours after that.

The incident happened last December, since then Mr Adams has made scant progress in winning compensation for the destruction of the negatives. His case is being handled by Claimguard Assessors International, a company of loss assessors based in Swiss Cottage, London.

The heavens open but sun shines on British hopes

No ducking a challenge as Thompson dives in

JAVIER: 1. J. J. L. (G), 88.15m (268ft 11in); 2. A. Veroult (Gre), 88.50m (290ft 4in); 3. T. Sanderson (GB), 84.80m (278ft 1in); 4. P. Fatus (E).

64.46: 5, M Vile (Fam). 62.78: 6, A Ram
(EG). 62.74: 7, T Laakso (Fm). 62.05: 8,
Radley-Zorgo (Rom). 61.82: 9, K Smith (L

Saturday

Television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Daville

BBC 1	TV-am	BBC 1	TV-am
6.25 Open University (until 8.55): 8.55 Panchy Panchy: Leo Erolism, from the black- and-white era; 9.15 The Last of the Mohicans: The Arabian Nights adventure, episode 9 of Nylola and the Tigerman, and Paul Weller of Style Council.	6.25 Good Morning Britain: with Tony Arthur, John Nokes. Includes news at 7.00, 8.00, 8.30; Sport at 7.10; Paul Gambaccini, 8.50; and 8.55 Celebrity guest at 8.10, Aerobics at 8.55.	6.25 Open University (until 8.55) Begins with Electronic Music and ends (starting at 8.30) with Theatre in Organic Synthesis.	7.15 Rub-a-Dub-Tube for the younger viewer. Chameleons, cats, stories, cartoons and a railway journey.
10.55 Standalone Cricket/Athletics. Third day of the Third Test at Lord's and live coverage of the world athletics championships in Helsinki (Daley Thompson takes the first five events of the pentathlon); 1.10 Water Ski- ing (Peter Stylus); European Championships, from Thorpe Park, 1.30 Boxing Preview (Jones v McCrory tonight in the US) and more athletics from Helsinki; 1.40 Cricket: Back to Lord's; 1.50 Racing from Newbury; 2.10 Athletics/Cricket: Further coverage from Helsinki and Lord's; 2.20 News; 2.30 The Godfrey Fraser Stakes; 2.40 Athletics/Cricket (cont.); 2.50 Final Scores. (The above timings are subject to alteration).	12.15 World of Sport. The live-up- to 12.20 Athletics: including day two of Daley Thompson's debut attempt at the Helsinki championships; 12.45 Speedway: World Individual Championships, at White City, London; 1.15 News.	10.30 Vancouver Report: John Wheeler and Rosemary Harris on the World Council of Churches assembly in Canada; 11.15 Farming.	8.15 Good Morning Britain: News bulletins at 8.15 and 8.25; Sports at 8.30; Review of the day's racing at 8.30, special guests at 8.45. Closes down at 8.55.
6.15 News with Jan Leeming. 8.25 Sports round-up.	1.20 Yachting: Britain defends its Admiral's Cup title in the English Channel; 1.40 Racing: the 1.45 at Ripon; 1.55 Speedway: The World Team Cup Final from Vojens, Denmark; 2.10 Racing: the 2.15 from Ripon; 2.25 Speedway: Back to Vojens for the World Team Cup Final; 2.40 Racing: the 2.45 from Ripon; 2.55 Athletics: More live coverage from Helsinki, including the debut of Daley Thompson's debut attempt; 3.25 News.	11.45 The First World Athletics Championships: Final day of the big Helsinki sporting event. There is live coverage of 11 finals, including the 1500m. And there is the 20-mile and 300 yard marathon. More coverage at 11.40 tonight, and on BBC 2 in Sunday Grandstand.	11.30 World Athletics Championships: Four and a half hours of live coverage from Helsinki on the final day of the big sporting event that has seen records tumble. Highlights include the men's 1,500m and 5,000m, the men's and women's 200 and 400m finals, and the marathon.
7.20 Film: The 3,000 Mile Chase (1977) Drama starring Cliff de Young as the courier who agrees to escort a feared man from his West Coast ranch by road to New York and clashes with a powerful and evil organization. Co-starring Glenn Ford and Blair Brown. Director: Russ Mayberry.	6.30 Barry Norman in Celebrity City: A film about "trial city" Hollywood, where the stars are absolutely at home as they with, among others: Angie Dickinson, Henry Winkler, Charlton Heston, Christopher Aldrich and Al McGraw (v).	11.55 News with Jan Leeming.	12.00 News with Jan Leeming.
8.55 The Night Attraction: with American singer-songwriter Sammy Davis Jr. and singer Chrissy Hynde. Impassioned Chrissy Hynde, Christopher Brown, and singer-songwriter Chrissy Hynde, and singer- songwriter Chrissy Hynde. Director: Russ Mayberry.	7.20 News. And sports round-up. Jorge Benitez: The Cuban- American pianist playing the work he has been doing students through during the past few weeks - Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No. 3. With the BBC Scottish SO.	12.05 Weather forecast.	12.05 News with Jan Leeming.
9.40 News and sports round-up.	8.30 Adult Movie: The Last Married Couple in America (1980): War of the sexes comedy, co- starring George Segal and Natalie Wood as the happily married couple who begin to wonder if they are missing out on something when they divorce. With Richard Benjamin. Directed by Gilbert Cates.	12.15 News with Jan Leeming.	12.15 News with Jan Leeming.
9.55 Kelly Michaels: The American comedian, one of his British audiences showed that offered a fair share of laughs (v).	11.25 London news headlines: The TopPop music uncut - with Fun Boy Three, the Gap Band, Yarborough and People's Fun. Plus some footage from the Beatles' home movies. With John Holland, Paula Yates and Mark Wadsworth.	12.25 News with Jan Leeming.	12.25 News with Jan Leeming.
10.25 Boxing/Athletics: Colin Jones (Wales) vs. McGraw (US) in the WBC Worldweight Championships at the World Arena, Las Vegas. Commentary by Harry Carpenter. And, from Helsinki, highlights of today's events in the world athletics championships, including the closed moments of the championship (v).	12.15 Night Thoughts with the Rev Dr Kenneth Greet. And Closes down.	12.30 News with Jan Leeming.	12.30 News with Jan Leeming.
11.58 The Bookend Files: Jim James (Garnier) uncovers a big landslide while recovering some stolen by a salesman (v).		12.35 News with Jan Leeming.	12.35 News with Jan Leeming.
12.45 Weather forecast.		12.40 News with Jan Leeming.	12.40 News with Jan Leeming.

Radio 4

6.25 Shipping Forecast. 6.30 News. 6.45 In Perspective. Religious affairs. 6.55 Weather. Travel. 7.00 News. 7.10 Today's Papers. 7.15 On Our Side. 7.20 News. 7.25 In Perspective. 7.30 It's a Bargain. 7.35 Weather. 7.40 News. 7.45 Today's Papers. 7.50 Sport On 4. 7.55 News. 8.00 News. 8.05 News. 8.10 News. 8.15 News. 8.20 News. 8.25 News. 8.30 News. 8.35 News. 8.40 News. 8.45 News. 8.50 News. 8.55 News. 9.00 News. 9.05 News. 9.10 News. 9.15 News. 9.20 News. 9.25 News. 9.30 News. 9.35 News. 9.40 News. 9.45 News. 9.50 News. 9.55 News. 10.00 News. 10.05 News. 10.10 News. 10.15 News. 10.20 News. 10.25 News. 10.30 News. 10.35 News. 10.40 News. 10.45 News. 10.50 News. 10.55 News. 11.00 News. 11.05 News. 11.10 News. 11.15 News. 11.20 News. 11.25 News. 11.30 News. 11.35 News. 11.40 News. 11.45 News. 11.50 News. 11.55 News. 12.00 News. 12.05 News. 12.10 News. 12.15 News. 12.20 News. 12.25 News. 12.30 News. 12.35 News. 12.40 News. 12.45 News. 12.50 News. 12.55 News. 1.00 News. 1.05 News. 1.10 News. 1.15 News. 1.20 News. 1.25 News. 1.30 News. 1.35 News. 1.40 News. 1.45 News. 1.50 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